SCRAP BOOK

5890

NANTUCKET

NEWS MEDIA

March 1974 to Dec. 1975

Compiled by
Gertrude A. Pratt
Taken From
"Inquirer and Mirror" News

MARCH 1974

Coast Guard wishes to replace Loran "A" with new system

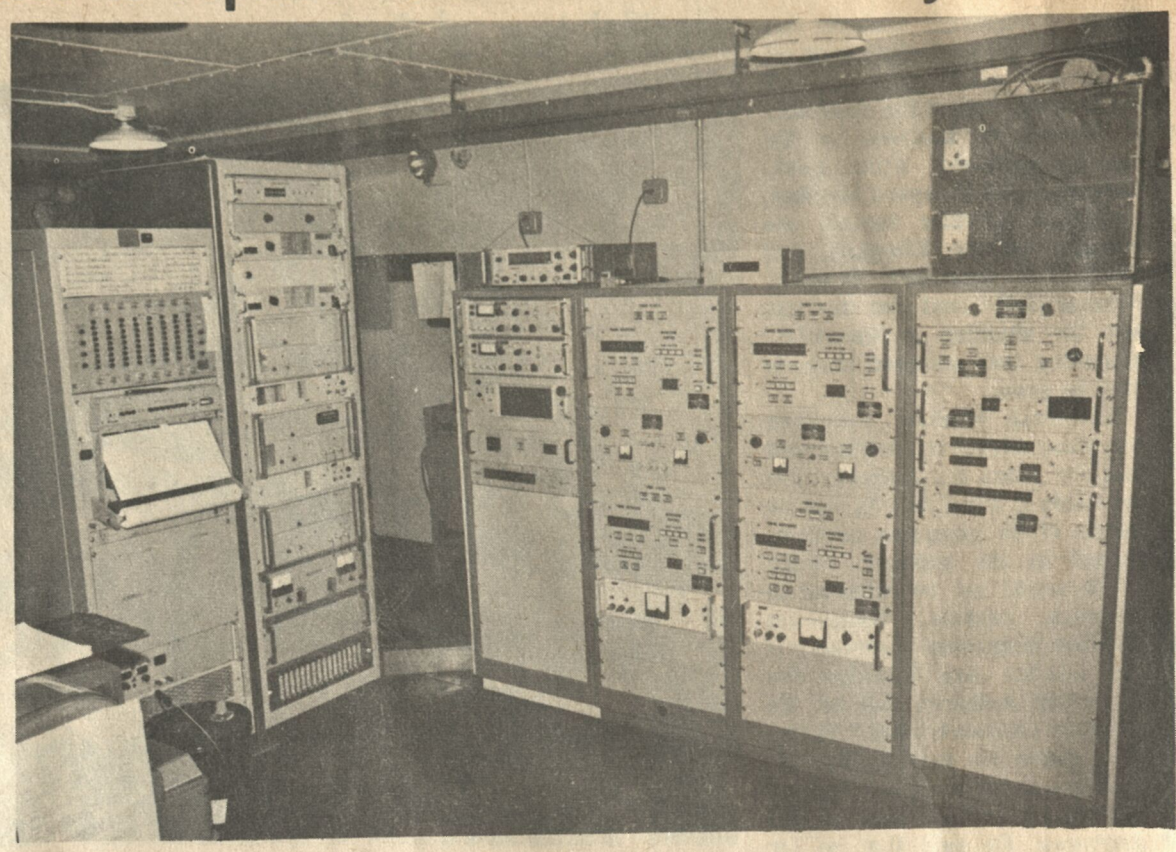
The U. S. Coast Guard has announced its desire to replace the Loran A navigation system, in use along the east coast for 30 years, with the more sophisticated and much more accurate Loran C system, beginning as early as 1979. Nantucket's Coast Guard Loran station, one of the first in the world, transmits both types of Loran signal, and has recently had the latest type of solid-state Loran C transmitting equipment installed. Two weeks ago Rear Admiral J. W. Moreau, in charge of all engineering in the Coast Guard, flew in from Washington to inspect the installation at Low Beach, spending half a day at the station.

Loran A and C both work on the same principle, but C carries the application of the principle a step further to achieve greater accuracy. All Loran works by measuring the difference in distance from a ship to each of two stations. Two pairs of stations are needed because each pair gives only a "line of position", and a navigator needs two lines of position which cross in order to get a "fix", or location of his ship.

A pair of Loran A stations send out a series of coordinated radio pulses transmitting in the 1850—1950 kh band. The shipboard receiver measures the precise time, to the nearest microsecond, or millionth of a second, which one pulse lags behind its matching pulse from the other Loran station. If both pulses are received exactly together, a rare circumstance, then the ship is equidistant from either station and somewhere on a "line of position" drawn at right angles to a line connecting the two stations. If one pulse is received after the other, which is the usual case, then the ship is somewhere on a curved line, called a hyperbola, representing all the possible points where the difference in distance between the ship and one station, and the ship and the other station, is the same. Receiving a second set of signals from another pair of Loran stations will establish a second hyperbola-shaped line of position. The ship is located where the two lines cross.

Loran C, transmitting on precisely 100 kh, improves upon this system by splitting the radio pulses into many tiny waves. The receiver matches the tiny waves of the signals from the two stations through what is called "phase coding". This enables the receiver to "weed out" reflections and other outside interference and achieve both more accuracy and more range than the earlier Loran A Range of Loran C is from 1200 to 1800 miles. In recent tests conducted aboard a Coast Guard tug in Boston harbor the vessel was able repeatedly to determine her position within two hundred feet using the Loran C stations at Nantucket; Dana, Indiana; and Carolina Beach. The same accuracy should be expected for the Nantucket Shoals area using proper receiving equipment, according to Cmdr. W. F. Roland of the Boston Coast Guard, who has been conducting the demonstrations.

Loran C was developed in the late 1950's for military use, but it is only now being made available to the public, becoming commercially practicable with the advent of smaller and cheaper solid-state receiving equipment. Whereas early Loran C equipment cost around $40,000, current high-quality receivers cost about $3500, and sets offering somewhat less accuracy can be had for a thousand dollars less. By comparison, the cheapest Loran A sets go for about $1000. The individual user now has the option of buying the greater accuracy of Loran C, at a price. He must decide whether or not his needs justify the expenditure.



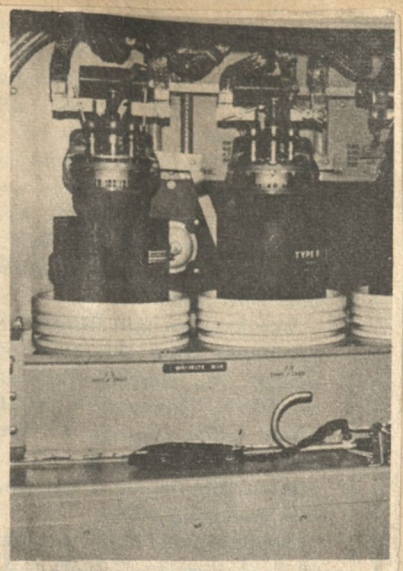
Recently installed solid-state timing and control equipment for the Loran C service.

Rear Adm. J. W. Moreau, r., in charge of all Coast Guard engineering, shown at airport with Lt. j.g. C. T. Winfrey, l., commanding officer of the Nantucket Loran Station.

The Defense Dept. has announced that after 1975 it will no longer need Loran A. It will then be using Loran C for coastal navigation and the globe-girdling satellite Omega system for oceanic navigation. However, due to established public dependence on Loran A, the Coast Guard has stated that it will not phase out the older system before 1979, and in any event cannot discontinue "A" service without the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, and the Congress.

If, or when, "A" is discontinued, the Coast Guard would be able to close the chain of "A" stations, with attendant saving of funds. Being of shorter range, Loran A requires more stations to serve the same area than does Loran C. The "A" stations nearest Nantucket are in southern Nova Scotia, Marshall Point, Maine, Sandy Hook, Hatteras and Charleston, S. C. Only five Loran C stations are needed to serve this area and much more: Cape Race, Newfoundland; Nantucket; Dana, Indiana; Carolina Beach and Jupiter Inlet, Florida.

CONT.



Two of the ten 35,000-watt tubes supplying the 350-kilowatt Loran C transmitter, houses at the base of the 650-ft tower.

Any Loran system is useless to the mariner unless he has the special charts which show the various "rates", or hyperbolic lines, derived from different pairs of stations. Loran C charts are not yet on the market, but the 1108 chart, from Nantucket Shoals to the Jersey coast, will be out April 15th, and the No. 71 chart, 1:500,000 scale, showing from Nantucket Shoals lightship north to Penobscot Bay, and from Buzzards Bay entrance east to Liverpool, Nova Scotia, will be out June 1st. Other charts in the 1100 and 1200 series are expected to be published in the coming year. They will be double-printed for economy, showing Loran A rates on one side and Loran C on the other, and will be on sale at authorized chart dealers.

Boatmen and others interested in Loran C may contact Cmdr. W. F. Roland through the Boston Coast Guard base, (617) 223-3610.

..Brant Point Coast Guard's 44-footer towing the 86-ft. sea scalloper "Sippican II" in to marina last Saturday noon. It was low tide and scalloper was drawing 15 feet.

Mar 2, 1974

Coast Guard to enforce new Life Preserver regulations this season

1974

New Coast Guard regulations which became effective last October, as well as similar Massachusetts regulations effective June 19th, will require all boats, even the smallest, to carry specified types of Personal Flotation Devices, or "P.F.D.'s". According to a spokesman for the Coast Guard's Boating Safety Office in Boston, about the only small craft exempt from the regulations are racing shells and racing kayaks, this last being the Eskimo type in which the paddler is sealed into the boat with a watertight fastening around the waist. All other craft, including inflatable beach rafts, even the smallest rowboats, kayaks, canoes and all sailboats must now carry P.F.D.'s.

Off-Island newspapers are mailed Friday

Main Street Gallery to open new gallery 1974

The Main Street Gallery has announced that it will enlarge its operation this coming season to include a new gallery located at No. 8 Federal Street. The new gallery, which was formerly the Nantucket Gallery, will operate under the name of The Federal Street Gallery.

Two of the outstanding one-man shows planned for the new gallery will be the paintings of Maggie Meredith and the sculpture of Donn Russell. The director, Reggie Levine also plans a number of group shows for the Main Street Gallery and the Federal Street Gallery which will include artists from both galleries.

There will be a continual exchange of work by all the artists from gallery to gallery. Some artists who formerly had one-man shows at the Main Street Gallery will have their exhibitions at the Federal Street Gallery, if that gallery is more compatible with their work.

The Federal Street Gallery is particularly ideal for exhibiting sculpture. The opportunity to exhibit large outdoor pieces is made possible because of the charming garden adjacent to the gallery itself. As a result, both galleries will show more sculpture than in previous seasons.

This new venture will increase the scope of the Main Street Gallery's operation and give all their artists added prime exposure. Also, it will create new and exciting possibilities in the artistic scene on Nantucket.

"Nantucket Magazine" to begin publication this coming summer 1974

Nantucket will get a new publication this summer. It will be called Nantucket Magazine and it plans two issues for its first season.

"We think it will be different from anything Nantucket has had in the past," said Paul Lancaster, the editor. "Both islanders and off-islanders are contributing a highly varied group of articles that will blend information and entertainment. The articles will tell about people who live on the island, examine its problems and explore its past."

Lancaster was formerly feature editor of the Wall Street Journal. The magazine is being designed by Kathy-Kelm Cronin, an island artist who is on the faculty of the Rhode Island School of Design. Her husband, Larry, is photography editor. Wilma Oldham is advertising manager. Nantucket Magazine will be printed by the Inquirer and Mirror and will sell for one dollars.

Among the articles scheduled for the summer are a report on island archeology by Ted Anderson and a look at the mechanics and economics of scalloping by Peter Wilson. Clay Lancaster, the architectural critic, has contributed a piece on Nantucket architecture that raises questions about some restoration projects.

For another article, Mara Cary has interviewed many of the families who have moved to the island to become year-round residents in recent years to find out what brought them here and how they're faring. One of these new residents, Alan Brown, has written a vivid account of what it's like to make the jump from selling advertising in New York area to working as a carpenter on Nantucket. Another unusual contribution by an islander is a collection of poems by Eleanor Phinney, a talented poet who moved to Nantucket when she retired from library work several years ago.

Readers Digest book says we have five treasures 1974

Nantucket is one of a comparitive handful of U.S. places listed in a new book published by Reader's Digest as having five or more of the country's treasures. The book is entitled Treasures of America and the treasures in Nantucket receiving special attention are the Christian House, 1800 House, Hadwen Satler Memorial House, Jethro Coffin House better known as the Oldest House, the Peter Folger Museum and the Whaling Museum.

The book describes more than 5000 man-made treasures throughout the nation, with full color pictures illustrating many of them. It divides the country into nine regions. Each regional selection of treasures is preceeded by a trip-coded map which enables readers to find their way to dozens of treasures with short driving distances of each other.

Erica Wilson to conduct needlework seminars 1974

Erica Wilson will personally conduct her first annual Summer Needlework Seminar in Nantucket this July 8th through 12th. It will be a week long schedule of lectures and intensive embroidery workshops. The subjects range from Crewelpoint, Stumpwork, Bargello, Gold and Jewel Embroidery, and Whitework. The seminar will include complete samplers and teaching material in each of the techniques and should prove to be an invaluable source of reference material for the evergrowing number of enthusiastic needle women. Erica and her staff of skilled teachers will be fully prepared to give each pupil very personal attention.

This seminar will be the first of its kind..conducted in Erica's charming home on Nantucket Island and will include a whole package of extra curricular summer activities such as an historic tour of the island, flower show, clam bake, and accomodations. Special provisions have been made for children and accompanying husbands.

For further information a fully illustrated brochure is available by writing to Erica Wilson Nantucket Seminar, 717 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y., 10021.

1974

The sun rose this morning at 5:46 and will set at 7:31 this evening.

Light your auto, bicycle and carriage lamps at 8:01 tonight.

"May Day" comes along next Wednesday. Most of the old traditions like distributing the fancily decorated May baskets, dancing around the May pole, or walking before dawn barefooted in the dewy grass on May day — all seem to have been long forgotten. The May baskets are continued yearly in Nantucket by the ladies of the Congregational Church who make them, fill them with homemade goodies and fruit and take them to the shut-ins and others on the island who enjoy a bit more sunshine in their lives because of the thoughtfulness of these ladies.

NOTICE

Notice To All My Customers
I wish to announce that Robert D. Sherman, Plumbing & Heating has not gone out of business as has been rumored and is still operating from 18 York Street as usual. Call 228-0456.

Mar. 7, 1974 3-7-2t

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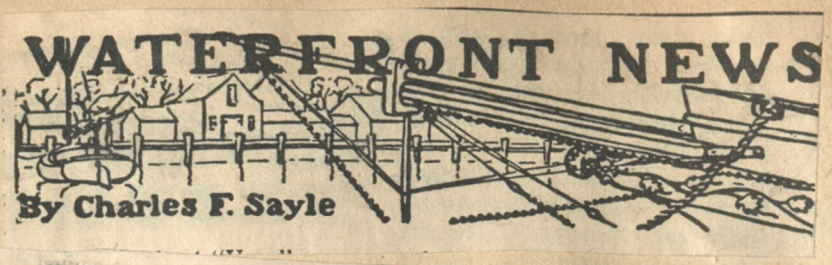
1924 — 50 Years Ago

Nantucket Grange was organized Tuesday, March 18. The first officers were: Master, John H. Bartlett; Overseer, Matthew L. Jaeckle; Lecturer, Miss Helen Bartlett; Steward, Albert Manning; Asst. Steward, Benson Chase; Chaplain, Mrs. Elmer Pease; Treasurer, J. J. Gardner 2nd; Secretary, W. Byron Snow; Gate-Keeper, F. Stuart Chadwick; Ceres, Mrs. Anna Huff; Pomona, Mrs. W. Byron Snow; Flora, Mrs. Henry Coffin; Lady Asst. Steward, Miss Ruth Chadwick. The Executive Committee was Frank Holm, Nathaniel Lowell and Ralph W. Coleman. There were approximately 60 charter members.

"I and M" Heading for →

WATERFRONT NEWS



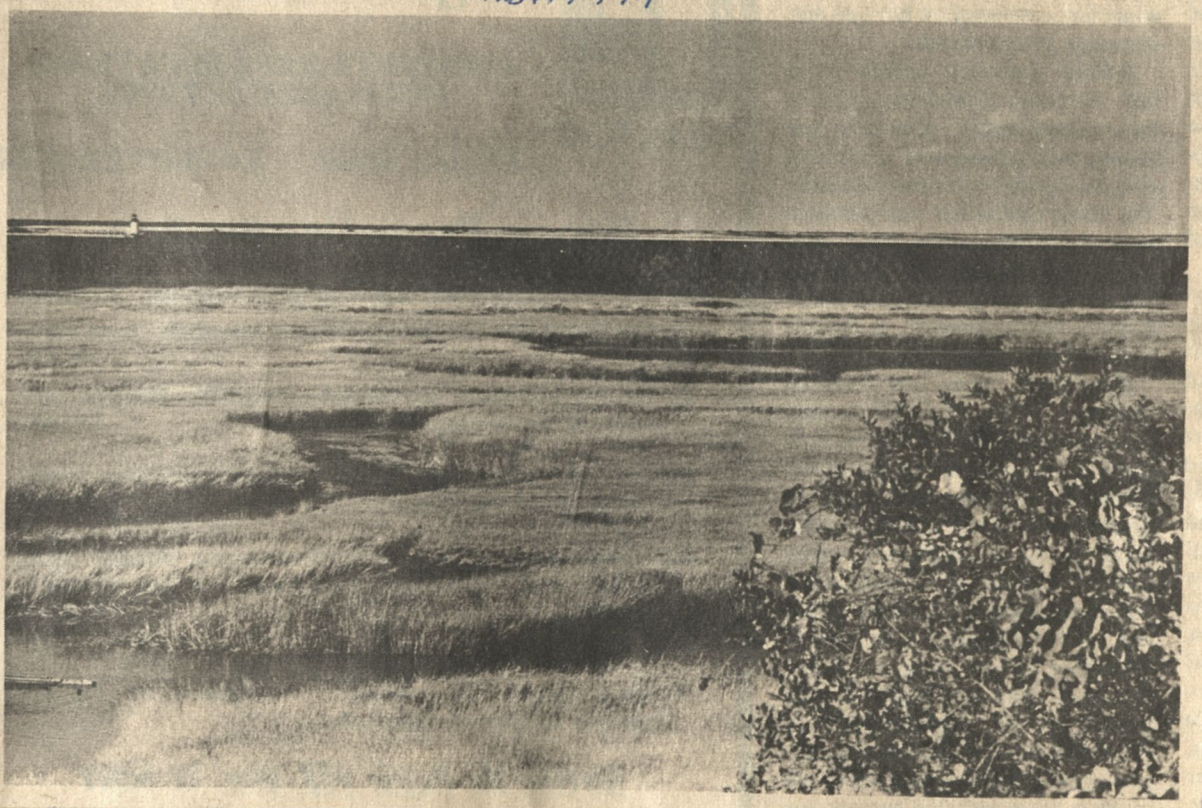
By Charles F. Sayle

I guess one can safely say winter has come to an end 1974 though there is still time for some chilly and raw days, and even a snow storm or two. So far March has been unusually warm, and each new day takes us farther away from the winter time.

With the milder weather a few more of the scallopers are venturing out again. The New Bedford sea scalloper Sippican was in for a while Saturday. The 82 foot Coast Guard cutter "Point Jackson" lay in at the tanker wharf Saturday afternoon and evening. 1974

Salt Marsh and Creeks

Mar. 1974



1974

Russian trawlers reported fishing off Nantucket

A radio report was received by the Brant Point Coast Guard Station Tuesday night that there were three Russian fishing boats off Surfside that were suspected of fishing within the 12 mile limit.

Chief Wayne Tolbert said today that the report was checked by a helicopter and by the station's 44 foot patrol boat but there was no Russian boat found within the 12 mile limit.

He said that last night the Point Jefferson was in the area but it was in the process of towing in a disabled boat and was not out particularly to watch the Russians. The lights of the Russian boats can be clearly seen from Surfside.

Steamship Authority spring schedule begins Monday

The Steamship Authority has announced that their spring schedule will begin Monday, April 1st. Nantucket will receive two round trips a day of the "Uncatena", and in addition will have several freight trips each week of the freighter "Auriga" as needed.

The "Uncatena" will leave Nantucket every morning at 7:30, arriving in Woods Hole at 10:00. She will leave Woods Hole at 10:45 and arrive back here at 1:15 p.m., leaving again at 2:00. Arriving in Woods Hole at 4:30, she will leave there at 5:00 and arrive here at 7:30 in the evening to stay overnight. APR. 1-1974

Steamship Authoirty to improve summer schedule for Nantucket

1974

At a meeting in executive session held yesterday in Woods Hole the Steamship Authority voted to restore the boat service this coming summer back to pre-gas shortage levels, and, in the case of Nantucket, to a higher level of comfort than was available last summer.

Valley in the Moors

1974

The north end of Maddequecham Valley, a wild and secluded hollow in the moors as yet unspoiled, and untouched by the hand of man except for the little-used rutted road winding away to the southward along the valley floor toward the sea. This is the only glacial valley of its kind on Nantucket. Mar. 1974

Quiet beach before the season 1974

WEATHER

MAR. 14, 1974

Small craft warnings were up Sunday for fresh northerly winds, but were changed to gale flags during the afternoon. It blew hard all morning but by mid afternoon and night it was hitting up 60 to 70 in the squalls. The S.S. "Naushon" came over in the early afternoon and went back, but the M.V. "Uncatena" cancelled out her evening trip. It was a good heavy breeze. During the night, a fair sized power boat belonging to Eddie Davis, and moored just off the Nantucket Shipyard all winter, broke adrift and fetched up on the beach halfway between the boat yard and the mouth of the Creek, undamaged. Eddie and a crew came down at low water Tuesday morning and rolled the boat off so we would be afloat again at high water.

Draggers "Theresa and Jean" and "Libby" were in for shelter, as well as the new steel stern trawler "Gen. Geo. S. Patton". Capt. Mike McDonald, formerly of Nantucket, is Skipper of the "Libby".

The breeze held on quite strong into Tuesday and the draggers "Aquarius" and "Ellen Marie" tied up here Tuesday.

1974

Since about the 10th of March we have seen a number of heavy breezes, perhaps a little more than usual. Last Thursday was one of those days when 12 sea scallopers and draggers were in for shelter, as the S.E. winds hit up over sixty at times. For the rest of the week end as many as 8 to 10 boats were in as stiff breezes held on; much on the chilly side.

Gale signals up at Brant Point Monday afternoon as heavy W to N.W. winds blew. The C.G. cutter "Point Bonita" came in and tied up at the tanker pier.

1974

The 26 ft.-28 ft. sloop yacht "Gayle", from Marion, Mass. sailed over during the afternoon and tied up at Straight Wharf, taking advantage of the stiff, fair wind, and the first yacht to come in this season.

Manny Roberts has been driving a row of single piles just north of Straight Wharf, along the south edge of the channel into the north side of the wharf.

Tuesday Manny was dredging the channel into the wharf. The Hyannis boats will be coming well in to a landing just outside of the candle shop.

A pit has been dug down about 2 feet deep at the point where the boat will tie up and the steel sheathing has been cut off, to allow passengers to get on and off at the main desk level.

APR. 1974

Draggers take refuge

Photo by Bruce Killen

1974

The March 17th gale brought heavy seas to Georges Bank and fishermen sought shelter in Nantucket in numbers unprecedented during recent years. Twelve large draggers and scallopers tied up at the Nantucket Boat Basin, the largest number of commercial fishermen to use the marina since its construction. The photograph shows no less than five vessels approaching the marina. In the foreground the Evelina M. Goulart comes alongside, while astern of her the Skipjack lays to waiting for room, and the masts and bow of a third boat can be seen behind Skipjack's bow. To the right a fourth dragger approaches the end of the dock, and a fifth swings wide around Brant Point.

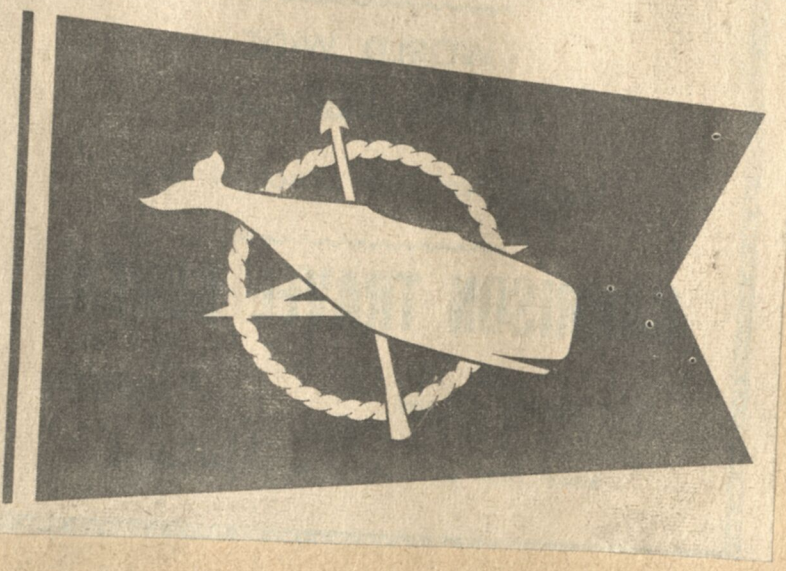
Official flag for Nantucket Island

Wednesday evening in the second session of the 1974 Town Meeting the citizens of Nantucket voted to adopt as the official flag of Nantucket Town and County the design which had been submitted by the Nantucket Flag Commission. The Commission had been authorized by a vote of the 1973 Town Meeting, and had been charged with developing a flag design to submit to the voters at the next annual meeting, which was this week.

The flag is in the shape of a burgee, a distinctive maritime form commonly used for ships' house flags but not without precedent in use ashore, the state flag of Ohio being a burgee. The colors are Nantucket's traditional blue and white, blue for the island's sea and sky, white for the sand beaches encircling it. The central theme is a swimming sperm whale shown in its natural element, the blue deep sea, against a circle of cordage which symbolizes both the globe which Nantucket whaleships ranged and the compass rose which guided them across its oceanic hunting grounds. North and south points of the compass are indicated by an early type of harpoon, or "iron", and they point to the magnetic poles as seen from Nantucket.

Only one objection was voiced to the flag's design, that it was "too nautical". A member of the Flag Commission conceded later that very early in the design development they considered whether in fact the elements they were contemplating were "too nautical" or "too much whale". Lenghty and spirited discussion amongst the members led to the unanimous conclusion that Nantucket's long tradition, international repute and historic uniqueness derive almost exclusively from the sperm whale fishery which our forebears pioneered.

As narrated in Edouard A. Stackpole's recent book, "Whales and Destiny", Nantucket enjoys the singular distinction of being the only American town which has negotiated directly with foreign governments in its own behalf. Shortly after the Revolution the Town Clerk was negotiating with not one but three governments; the provincial government of Nova Scotia in Halifax, the imperial government of Great Britain in London, and the royal government of Louis XVI in Paris and Versailles, all on agreements for Nantucket to provide whole fleets of whaleships and found new settlements in these countries. At that time and later, in the second war with England, Nantucket acted with a degree of independence and initiative characteristic of a sovereign national power. These circumstances, the Commission concluded, not only warrant a flag for the island in the first place, but dictate that the flag should symbolize the sperm whale fishery which made Nantucket a name to be reckoned with on the oceans and in the maritime capitals of the world.



— 1974 —

A.A.R.P. elected officers

New officers were elected for the coming year at the April 16 meeting of Nantucket Chapter, American Association of Retired Persons.

The Nominating Committee composed of Norman P. Giffin and Mrs. Mildred C. Edgarton presented a slate of officers as follows: President, Richard C. Maloney; Vice President, Mrs. Estelle P. Coggins; Secretary, Stuart B. Day and Treasurer, Mrs. Vivian Potter. Nominated to serve on the Board of Directors were Rev. Frank J. Pattison, Mrs. Grace Ramsdell, Miss Rosamond Duffy, Manuel F. Sylvia, Mrs. Anthony Benjamin and George A. Selleck.

It was voted that the report and recommendations of the nominating committee be received. It was then voted that nominations be closed and this was followed by a vote that the slate of officers be declared elected.

The meeting was held at Wesley Fellowship Hall at the United Methodist Church with 75 members present. Rev. Pattison offered a prayer of fellowship to open the meeting and this was followed with the minutes of the Charter Meeting read by Secretary Day and the treasurer's report given by Mrs. Potter. 1974

Grange celebrates 50th birthday

Thirty-two members of Nantucket Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, attended the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the local Grange held last Saturday evening, March 23, at Grange Hall.

The Grange was honored with the presence of Rexford Smith of west Springfield, Master of the State Grange. He was accompanied to the island by his wife and made the presentation of 50 year certificates and pins to four 50 year members.

Receiving this honor were John H. Bartlett, Jr., Mrs. Edna Wood, Franklin Stuart Chadwick and Eugene Burgess.

Mrs. Alice Collins, P. M., read a history of the founding of the local Grange taken from an issue of the Inquirer and Mirror published on March 22, 1924, wherein it stated that there were 60 charter members and John H. Bartlett was the first Master. The Organization and first meeting were held in J. B. Chace Hall. Kenneth Eldridge, P. M., added that the charter membership was kept open and that it wasn't long before there were 298 charter members in the Nantucket Grange. He said that as far as he knew this was the largest number of charter members to join any Grange in the State.

State Master Smith spoke and praised the beauty of the island and its wonderful heritage. He said, "Keep it that way and keep the State out." He congratulated Nantucket Grange for its 50 years of service to the order and said they should be proud to have 75 members on their roster. He said he had appointed a legislative director, John Gorman of Avon, and to contact him should the Nantucket Grange want him to draw a resolution at any time.

Mrs. Smith extended an invitation to all to attend the State Grange Convention to be held in Plymouth this year.

A gift from the Grange was presented to State Master Smith by Mrs. Harriet Dexter, P. M. Several songs were sung by sisters, Lucille Cinquini and Yvette Marques, and the presentations of the 50 year certificates and pins was made by the State Master. Three other charter members were unable to attend and will receive their certificates and pins at their homes. They were Mrs. Viola Bartlett, Matthew Jaeckle and Charles Whelden.

An unexpected feature of the evening was the presentation of a birthday cake to Stuart Chadwick who with due ceremony cut the cake and gave each member a piece of it. The members sang "Happy Birthday" to Brother Stuart.

Prior to the ceremonies, the members and their guests enjoyed a bountiful buffet dinner prepared by Mr. and Mrs. Karsten Reinemo.

The Nobska returns home

1959 — 15 Years Ago (1974)

The announcement was made that Nantucket Cranberries, Inc., had purchased the 1,141 tract of land and buildings formerly owned by the Nantucket Cranberry Co. 331 acres of bogs were on the south side of the Siasconset Road, 810 acres of undeveloped bogland on the north side, extending to Tom Nevers Head Pond. This was known to be the largest single cranberry bog area in the United States. In the Nantucket Cranberries, Inc., were Robert Congdon, Albert Silva, Albert F. Egan, Jr., Richard Corkish and Kenneth Coffin, Jr.

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1924 — 50 Years Ago (1974)

A special Town Meeting voted to lease Cliff Bathing Beach to Leon M. Royal for a period of 15 years at $3,300 per year, with the privilege of a 5-year renewal.

The steamer "Gay Head" — the oldest boat on the line — was sold to the Hartford and New York Transportation Co. to become an excursion steamer on the Connecticut river. The vessel had made her first trip to Nantucket July 8, 1891 and was retired in August of 1923.

1899 — 75 Years Ago

With the issue of May 20 The Inquirer and Mirror increased its page size, making 9 columns instead of 8, with a column length of 2 additional inches. This gave the newspaper 164 inches of extra room.

1974

The Hyannis boat has commenced its daily noon-time excursion arrival, with departure about 3:45 in the afternoon on the homeward trip. MAY 1974

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
WOODS HOLE, MARTHA'S VINEYARD AND NANTUCKET STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY
LEASE FOR RENTAL AUTOMOBILE STAND
HYANNIS TERMINAL

Sealed proposals entitled "Lease for one (1) Rental Automobile Stand — Hyannis Terminal" will be received at the Hyannis Terminal Building, Barnstable (Hyannis), Massachusetts, P.O. Box 788, Hyannis, Massachusetts, 02601 until 2:00 P.M., D.S.T. on Wednesday, May 1, 1974 and at that time will be opened and publicly read aloud.

Proposals may be obtained at the Steamship Authority's Hyannis Terminal, Pleasant Street, Hyannis, Massachusetts or by calling 771-4000. All proposals shall be on forms provided by the Authority.

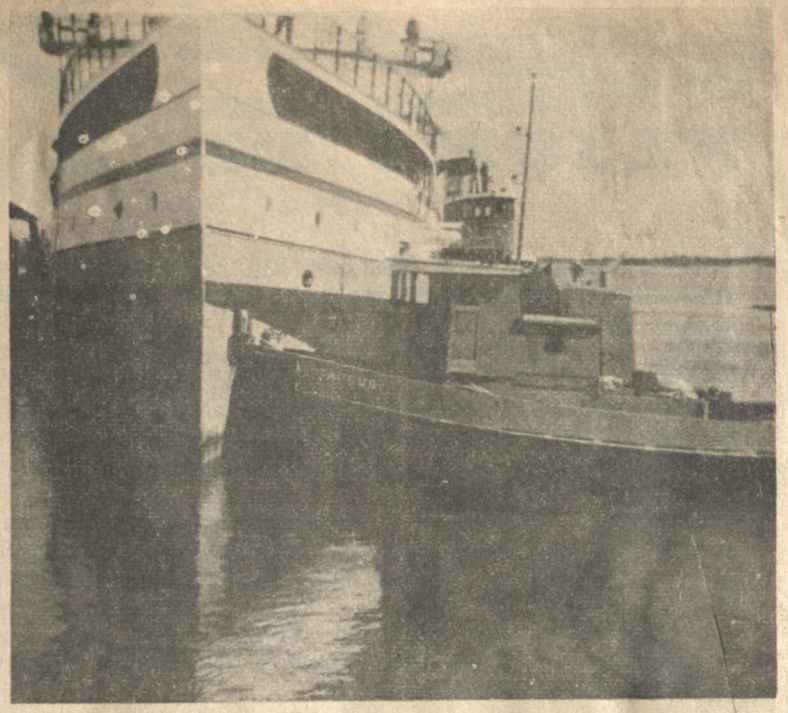
The proposals must be enclosed in as sealed envelope addressed to Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority and endorsed "Rental Automobile Stand — Hyannis Terminal".

The Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to award the Lease as deemed to be in the best interest of the Authority.

Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard
and Nantucket Steamship Authority
P. O. Box 788
Hyannis, Massachusetts 02601
Ronald G. Eastman
Assistant General Manager

4-18-2t

"Nobska" towed here for summer layup



Last Friday, March 15, the steamer "Nobska" was towed to Nantucket, where she will be laid up until next fall, thus making room in Vineyard Haven for the steamer "Naushon" to berth in stand-by status. With the arrival of the new motor vessel "Nantucket" from Florida in April the Steamship Authority's fleet will be increased to six boats, and there is not enough berthing space at the wharves unless the south side of Steamboat Wharf in Nantucket is used.

The "Nobska's" annual inspection certificate expires May 23rd, and the work known to be necessary in order to put the vessel in shape to pass the next inspection is estimated to cost at least $267,000. This figure does not include any unforseen work the need for which might be discovered during the inspection. The Authority has felt that with the more versatile steamer "Naushon" (formerly the "Nantucket") available on standby at Vineyard Haven, the expenditure of such a large amount on the 49-year-old "Nobska" cannot be justified. With only a single deck for freight, the "Nobska" can't carry truck trailers, and her utility is thereby severely limited.

Having the steamer towed to Nantucket was an economy move on the part of the Authority. General Manager John J. McCue stated that the cost of putting a crew aboard the boat and activating her in order to sail her to Nantucket under her own steam would have amounted to at least $10,000, and perhaps as much as $15,000. Cost of the tow, when all bills are in, will be about $3,000.

The "Nobska" left Vineyard Haven Friday morning about eight o'clock with the tug "Ellen M." towing alongside to port and the smaller tug "Taurus", owned by Packer Marine of Vineyard Haven, standing by to aid in maneuvering. They arrived in Nantucket about 12:45 and the "Nobska" was put in her berth along the south side of Steamboat Wharf, the little "Taurus" nudging in her bow much as an ocean liner is eased into her North River berth in New York.

The "Nobska" has no crew aboard, being what is known as a "dead ship", but she is under the special protection of night watchmen, in addition to special security arrangements.

Miss Jane Meilbye receiving the D.A.R. Good Citizen award from Mrs. Albert J. Pitkin, regent of the Abiah Folger Franklin Chapter, N.S.D.A.R.

A fine calm day Friday and the towboat "Ellen F." from Boston tied on the port quarter of the S.S. "Nobska", at Vineyard Haven, for the trip over to Nantucket. About 8:15 A.M. they were on their way, with Packer Marine's new 45 ft. towboat "Taurus" pulling on the "Nobska's" bow and the 1200 H.P. "Ellen F." pushing alongside. Aboard was S.S. Authority Mate Carl Meseda and three crewmen. Aboard the "Nobska" as guests for the trip were Ralph Packer, wife Dottie and son John. Also Bill and Judy McConnell. Bill works with the Packer Fuel Co. It was a most beautiful trip over and about 12:40 P.M. they rounded Brant Point and "Nobska" was nosed into the berth on the south side of Steamboat Wharf and tied-up. On hand was a good sized crowd of people and the various classes from the grade school, a fine, large welcoming committee. Word is that she will receive a coat of paint this spring. Most folks feel she should have the needed work done on her and kept in service as she has a lot of work left in her. The "Naushon" (ex "Nantucket") will be on standby this summer and there will be no real passenger boat in steady operation. The remaining boats, including the new "Nantucket" are actually freight boats and the new vessel will be more like an over size "Uncatena", built to haul trailers and trucks mainly.

It has been said passenger vessels don't pay any more, but I am sure the several excursion lines that have built new boats in late years are not investing their money to lose it carrying passengers. "Nobska" can still carry a good jag of cars and the Authority seems to think there is also money in autos. She should have a bow thruster put in and be the boat for the run to Hyannis. Ted Gelinas put one into the old Martha's Vineyard, and it did not cost 3 fortunes, and was doing ok with passengers until clobbered by the powers that be. A way might be found to raise some funds by public subscription to help refit her and some way found to add a small amount to the fare to help or some sort of a surcharge on the fare. Power companies add a fuel surcharge to the rates with no trouble. The feeling runs strong to keep her going, as should be, and a way should be found to do it. She should be kept alive and working for as long each season as business warrants. 1974

1949 — 25 Years Ago

Nantucket's tax rate was $30.00.

1954 — 20 Years Ago

The first of 8 pairs of stained glass windows were installed in St. Paul's Church on March 15. They were manufactured by the firm of Charles J. Connick Asso., Designers and Workers in Stained and Leaded Glass, of Boston. The first pair were in memory of Mrs. Susan Van Kleeck Menges.

New "Nantucket" to undergo her sea trials on April 23rd

1974

At last Friday's monthly meeting of the Steamship Authority in Woods Hole General Manager John J. McCue reported that the new motor vessel "Nantucket" is expected to undergo sea trials on April 23rd. After the trials she will be drydocked for a final painting of her bottom and inspection by Authority representatives before the shipyard turns the new boat over to the Authority. Contract delivery date of the 230-foot boat, which has a capacity of 11 large trailer trucks, is May 1st. However, late delivery to the shipyard of many vital parts during the nationwide energy shortage last winter could delay delivery of the boat by a couple of weeks. The M. V. "Nantucket" will go into regular service with the beginning of the Authority's summer schedule.

Officials from New Bedford attended the meeting and requested that the Authority provide service once more to that city, although the city is unwiliing to assume any responsibility for financial deficits which may be incurred by the boatline. The Authority was cool to the idea, but McCue promised that " . . .We'll continue talking and inspecting, looking at all the parameters of what's good for New Bedford continue talking and inspecting, looking at all the parameters of what's good for New Bedford and the present communities served by the Steamship Authority..."

After the meeting Nantucket Member Roggeveen commented that Nantucketers were asking, "Why get involved with New Bedford again?", and recalled the long struggle to get New Bedford out of the Authority so that it could be run solely for the benefit of the islands which depend on it, without interference from mainland cities or the Statehouse. He said, "If the line is going to make any investment in additional service, Nantucket people would like to see it spent for an improvement on the Nantucket-Hyannis route."

"No Smoking" section on steamer in requested

W.H., M.V., N., SSA
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
Dear Sirs;

It seems there should be a no smoking regulation at least on one passenger side of our ferry's going to and from the Islands. My friends and relatives don't smoke cigarettes and to a non smoker it is unfair, unconstitutional and unhealthy that there is no strictly enforced smoking regulation on our ferries. Please understand the plight of the nonsmokers and a 1 or 3 hour ride, and post some signs and enforce the new rules. Could you please start tomorrow morning?

1974

Thank you,
Petter and Peggy
Meerbergen

A large crowd arrived here for the holiday weekend with the S. S. A. boats loaded as well as the HiLine boat, "Brant point" from Hyannis. The new M. V. "Nantucket" came over with her full quota of 1000 persons, including crew, Saturday afternoon. The freight deck was loaded with trucks, cars and dolly freight. The M. V. "Uncatena" made a special trip over with around 130 passengers, arriving about 4:30 p.m. the same afternoon. The visitors were greeted with a poor weekend, weatherwise, and Monday brought a cold raw wind with a cold rain in the afternoon and night. It felt like winter was back, with the fresh to strong N. to N. E. wind.

(Memorial - 1974)

Over 600 persons visited the Whaling Museum over the weekend.

MV "Nantucket" passes sea trials; may leave Florida for Woods Hole Friday

Photo by A. Roggeveen

The "Nantucket leaves a tortuous wake astern as she is put through a series of full-rudder turns during her sea trials in the Atlantic off Jacksonville.

May 1974

Last Tuesday morning the new Motor Vessel "Nantucket" sailed down the St. John River from Jacksonville Shipyards to the open sea for the first time, and during the following eight hours was put through the series of gruelling tests which are known collectively as "sea trials". Steamship Authority General Manager John J. McCue said later that the new boat performed "beyond all expectations", and even the members of her crew, traditionally pessimistic about such matters, were favorably impressed by the new vessel.

For the purpose of the trials the "Nantucket" carried, over and above her regular crew, a number of shipyard workers and officials and observing Coast Guard officers from the Florida District's Office of Marine Inspection. These men monitored the vessel's overall performance and the operation of the numerous mechanical systems on board. Also on board for the tirals were Adriaan Roggeveen, Authority Member for Nantucket, John McCue, Architect John K. Roper, who designed the vessel, and the Authority's Chief of Maintenance A. E. Libbra.

The sea was calm with only a long, low swell to disturb its surface, and the "Nantucket", in light draft condition displacing less than 1100 tons, was at her best. At normal cruising power of 300 shaft r.p.m. she logged 14.7 knots on the measured mile and proved remarkably vibration-free. Her maximum permissible displacement is 1569 tons, and lying deeper in the water at higher weights she will probably be somewhat slower. Her draft increases by one inch for every eighteen tons added to her cargo.

The boat is very stable due to her great waterline beam, about 51 feet, and she heeled very little on full-rudder turns at full speed. To probe for any weaknesses that might be revelaed by prolonged vibration a full hour's operation at normal "full astern" is required, and the "Nantucket" ran in this mode for about an hour and twelve minutes uncovering no faults in the process.

Last-minute details are now being finished, and if they are completed in time the "Nantucket" will sail from Jacksonville sometime Friday and proceed nonstop to Woods Hole, taking between 60 and 72 hours for the coastwise voyage. She will parallel the coast as far as Cape Hatteras and will leave the land there, steering direct for Vineyard Sound acorss 440 miles of open Atlantic, about 30 hours steaming to her landfall at Gay Head sometime Monday.

The "Nantucket" will be commanded by Captain Edward Tully of Edgartown, a retired Master Mariner who served as relief captain of the ferry "Islander" last summer. The remainder of her 16-man crew will be predominantly Authority employees, only two or three men having to be recruited from outside the company to make the voyage.

Large sailing vessels to visit Nantucket this summer

1974

The American Sail Training Association, founded in Newport in 1973, will conduct its second annual sail training races from June 20-July 5. The ten large schooners and possibly the bark "Eagle" will be racing to Nantucket from Vineyard Haven on July 1. Many of the schooners being sponsored by ASTA are familiar to Nantucket people, yet never in recent years have so many come in one regatta.

Among the participants are "Bill of Rights", "Harvey Gamage", "Shenandoah", "Tabor Boy", "Black Pearl", "Pioneer", "Nathaniel Bowditch", "Brilliant", and "Westward". If the U.S. Coast Guard bark "Eagle" acts as a flagship, she will lay in the Chord of the Bay.

The American Sail Training Association is a co-sponsor with "Op Sail 76" in formulating plans for the visit of forty sail training vessels or "Tall Ships" to American Waters in July 1976.

Regattas and races being conducted by ASTA each summer are in preparation for Americans contribution to "Op Sail 76". This nation-wide organization hopes to highlight the continuing need for the training of young people under sail.

Renny A. Stackpole of Providence and Nantucket is a Director of the American Sail Training Association and serves as Chairman of the Sail Training and Education Committee. He is presently visiting seaport towns in search of sponsors — both individuals and business organizations — that might support a young person or persons from their community to sail on one of the vessels.

Nantucket residents have already come forth as sponsors and hopefully more will join the effort. Dr. Christian Briggs will serve as ships doctor on the "Shenandoah" for the first week of the cruise. Mitchell's Book Corner will sponsor a Nantucket boy on one of the sail training cruises in August.

Any individuals from Nantucket who might be interested in the sponsorship of Nantucket boys for a week-long sail training cruise on vessels like "Shenandoah" or "Bill of Rights" should contact the American Sail Training Association, Bannister's Wharf in Newport, R.I.

Rural deliveries at east end of island to begin

Rural deliveries will begin in Quidnet, Wauwinet, Shimmo, Monomoy, Pocomo and other outlying area on the eastern end of the Island June 10. Postmaster Edward F. King, said that all areas which have previously received this summer service will be on the list for deliveries. 1974

Dear Representative Studds:

Nantucket Island, which rose to prominence in the world during the last century through the whaling industry, was shocked and saddened when many of our citizens witnessed a film entitled "Whaling, Dolphins and Men."

We on this island realize that the industry had its early success on Nantucket. However, at that time, the whale was a very necessary commodity, furnishing homes with oil for light, etc., but in this day there is no intrinsic reason for the whale to supply the necessities of life when all of the items which these glorious creatures provide today can be produced by other means.

If the world does not call a halt to this unnecessary decimation of the whale herds of the world we will have lost not only the mammal itself but an avenue of scientific knowledge which is beginning to develop.

We therefore solicit your aid and ask for your help to try to stop this senseless destruction of an integral part of the world.

Sincerely,
David D. Worth,
Chairman
Committee to Save The Species

Copies to:
President Nixon,
Japanese Ambassador,
Russia Ambassador,
Senator Brooke,
Senator Kennedy 1974

Appreciated concern of all following auto accident

To Whom it May Concern:

In this day and age of generalized criticism of our way of life it seemed most appropriate that I write at this time of the general hand-care goodness and kindness in people.

Recently Mrs. Murphy and I were involved in an unfortunate accident on Nantucket. From the moment the accident occurred I was astounded at the genuine concern of all. To the people on Cliff Rd. who interrupted their festivities to be of aid - my most profound thanks. To all the Police Department keep it up for whatever you are doing - you are primarily interested in helping people. The entire dep't was courteous, kind and helpful beyond the call of duty. To the personnel in the Emergency Room, again we give our most sincere thanks and lastly to the Holdgate Car Rental Co. who - again, in a very personel way - showed concern for us beyond the limits of what was expected of the usual car rental Co.

I think what I'm trying to say - is that in a paticular way the people of Nantucket responded to our needs in a most humane and kind way- a way that is sorely lacking today. Whatever you do on that island of yours keep doing it for you have the right spirit.

Sincerely,
Joseph L. Murphy M. D.

1974

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1924 – 50 Years Ago

Steamer "Sankaty" was destroyed by fire about 10 o'clock in the evening of Monday, June 30. Capt. Manuel Sylvia and some of his crew had to jump overboard to save their lives, the fire had broken out so suddenly. It was thought to have been caused by a cigarette or match near the barrels of oil. Nothing was saved on board the vessel, which was released from the pier at New Bedford and allowed to drift out into the harbor. The following day she was tied up – a mere skeleton – beside the "Charles W. Morgan" at the Fairhaven side of the harbor.

The "Charles W. Morgan", was offered to the city of New Bedford as a gift with the provision that she be moored at the new Marine Park as a permanent exhibit.

1925 – 50 Years Ago

A meeting was held by a temporary organization to establish a museum "commemorative of Nantucket's palmy days as a whaling port". William F. Macy was elected president, Henry P. Schauffler the secretary and curator, and Albert G. Brock the treasurer. The deeds had already been passed for the purchase of the Hadwen and Barney brick candlehouse at the head of Steamboat Wharf. The candlehouse had been built after the Fire of 1846.

1924 – 50 Years Ago

Henry Everett offered to the Town for use as a public park a tract 500 feet square on the highest point of Sauls Hills (known as Altar Rock), together with rights of way thereto– one from the State Road and one from the Polpis Road. The Selectmen voted to accept the offer in behalf of the County.

Anti-litter Day nets two tons of trash

Nantucket Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, members of the U.S. Naval Facility and island residents picked up over two tons of trash last Saturday, the island's anti-litter day. The trash bags were provided by the DPW. April 27 was SOAR (Save Our American Resources) day for the scouts. Badges are awarded to those who participate.

The Cub Scouts, under the direction of Cubmaster James Day, cleaned up the area around the Old Wind Mill and Mill Hill Park. According to Cubmaster Day over a hundred bags of trash were collected by the forty Cub Scouts. He expressed his concern over the attitude of many residents that it is the Scouts' responsibility to clean up the island. "They're not garbage collectors", said Day, "and it should be every citizen's concern to keep this island clean."

Six energetic young men from Troop 97 cleaned up Sauls Hills from the 'Sconset Road to Altar Rock to Polpis Road, including Fudge Hill. It took them four hours to cover an area of nine square miles and collect the pile that was later left for public view on the 'Sconset Road.

They picked up the usual trash of bottles, cans, papers and cardboard as well as some not so usual items such as tailpipes, mufflers, a car hood and a suitcase. The suitcase was still locked. However, the side had been cut into and apparently the thief removed everything he wanted, leaving behind an assortment of paraphenalia.

The Scouts from Troop 97 said they hoped that by leaving the trash in a mountainous pile along the roadside, the public would see it and think twice about littering in the future. They expressed their appreciation to the Garden Club for the publicity, Elmore and Robert Taylor for the use of their truck to cart the trash filled bags from the moors to the 'Sconset Road and to all the residents who participated in the anti-latter campaign.

The Girl Scouts divided into two groups with the fourth and fifth graders working around Brant Point and the sixth graders cleaning up the area around the Cyrus Peirce School. Members of the 'Sconset Civic Association cleaned up around 'Sconset, residents of the Polpis area cleaned in that section of the island and many individuals cleaned up around their particular location.

The Navy got the jump on the situation and had a preliminary pick up Friday. They cleaned the roads from the Navy Base to Milestone Road as well as the area of the Navy housing. In addition, a group of the Navy men contributed their time and effort to picking up other roads on Saturday. Both Navy and DPW trucks were out Monday picking up all of the filled trash bags along the roadsides.

The State Forest was assigned to Troop 95. A few boys turned out Saturday, but most of the Troop will clean the area this Saturday. Last week's project for Troop 95 was postponed due to the death of their leader, Charles Ferreira.

Navy men pick up trash bags

April 27, 1974

"In Appreciation"
Clock lighted Again

The Reverend Ted Anderson of the Unitarian Church has been at work in the steeple. We reported a week or so ago that the light in the Tower of the Church was again lighted. We have since learned that "Ted" managed to fashion some reflectors and has the Tower lighted with a 60 watt bulb instead of the 5 times stronger one used previously. Last weekend the lights came on again at the clock's four faces, again through the interest and integrity of the Church Pastor, who was as anxious as all of us have been to see the clock faces once more lighted. All Nantucket joins together in thanking the Unitarians for having such a public spirited ingenious Pastor to head their congregation.

Naval Facility, Consolan, hit by lightning Friday

The Nantucket Navy Base was a target for bolts of lightning during Friday's storm. The storm hit Nantucket at approximately twelve noon and though it ceased within an hour, 1.29 inches of rain fell, accompanied by thunder and lightning. An estimated four or five bolts of lightning simultaneously struck the Navy Base causing approximately $100 work of damage.

Every building on the base was hit and the attenna on the Main Administration Building was knocked off by one of the bolts. A lightning bolt also caused the automatic fire alarm to sound and consequently the alarm burnt out.

Telephones were disconnected and remained off throughout the weekend. The Nantucket Fire Department was immediately called in and remained standing by in case needed.

Also hit by lightning during Friday's storm, was the Coast Guard Consolan, a long range navigation system, located off Hummock Pond Road. As a result of the striking bolt, the FM radio within the transmitting tower burned out. According to Chief Wayne Tolbert, the radio is temporarily fixed. No other Coast Guard facilities suffered any damage during the course of the storm.

According to Nantucket Memorial Airport Manager Kenneth Holdgate, the storm caused no damage at the airport. Said Holdgate, "We have good drainage and therefore had no problems. In fact a couple of planes landed during the storm. Everything went nicely. We were very lucky."

Robert McGrady of the Federal Aviation Adminstration reported that none of the F. A. A.'s equipment suffered any damage as a result of the storm.

1974

"Nobska" is honored by being placed on Register of Historic Places

Joseph F. Morin of Hooper Farm Road was advised this week by the Massachusetts Historical Commission that the steamer "Nobska" has been added to the National Register of Historic Places,under the National Park Service. Mr. Morin an active member of the Steamship Historical Association, began the move to grant national recognition to the 49-year-old steamer last year, and due in large part to the energetic efforts of Congressman Gerry Studds the "Nobska's" new status was achieved in record time. Mr. Morin is shown on the port wing of the "Nobska's" bridge as she was lying in her present berth on the south side of Steamboat Wharf in Nantucket.

The S.S. "Nobska" is now on the register as a National Historic Landmark. It is hoped she can be put back in shape and put back to work another season. 1974

Channel 3, Cable TV put on the story of the S.S. "Nobska", Monday evening. Joe Morin led the tour of the fine old passenger steamer as John McCue, William Simmonds, Frank Hardy, Norman Giffin, and Mike Libbra told of their working with the line, past and present.

Tom Giffin pointed out the controls and working of the fine old four cylinder triple expension engine that has run and given reliable service for 48 years, and could run for many more, giving quick and reliable service, something not available with the present power in the newer part of the fleet. The story was presented very well and ended with the sounding, from tapes, of the fine toned steam whistle, numerous times. 1974

The new steamer being built at Bath Iron Works was to be named "Nobska".

—0— 1950

Report of the Nobska in her new home - Baltimore

Dear Editor:

I thought perhaps your readers might be interested in a report on the current status of the Nobska here in Baltimore. Some friends who were sailing with me in Nantucket watched her sad departure under tow in those last days of July, but we were encouraged to know that we could look forward to seeing her again and even to dining on her decks as part of the revitalization of Baltimore's inner harbor.

The Nobska arrived here some weeks ago with a spanking fresh coat of white paint and a soft green waterline. She looks strong and healthy and has been lying comfortably in the shadow of the United States Frigate Constellation (sister ship to the Constitution) which graces Baltimore's inner harbor front one pier away. With the current redevelopment of this area of downtown Baltimore,the Constellation and the Nobska now dominate the skyline as one looks to the harbor from every direction. While I have not yet had an opportunity to go aboard her, I understand that extensive work has already been done on refurbishing her interior for dining purposes. As I think you have reported in these columns earlier her ownership has been transferred to the City of Baltimore. The city has, in turn, leased her back to Mr. Johnson, her original purchaser, for purposes of a waterfront restaurant.

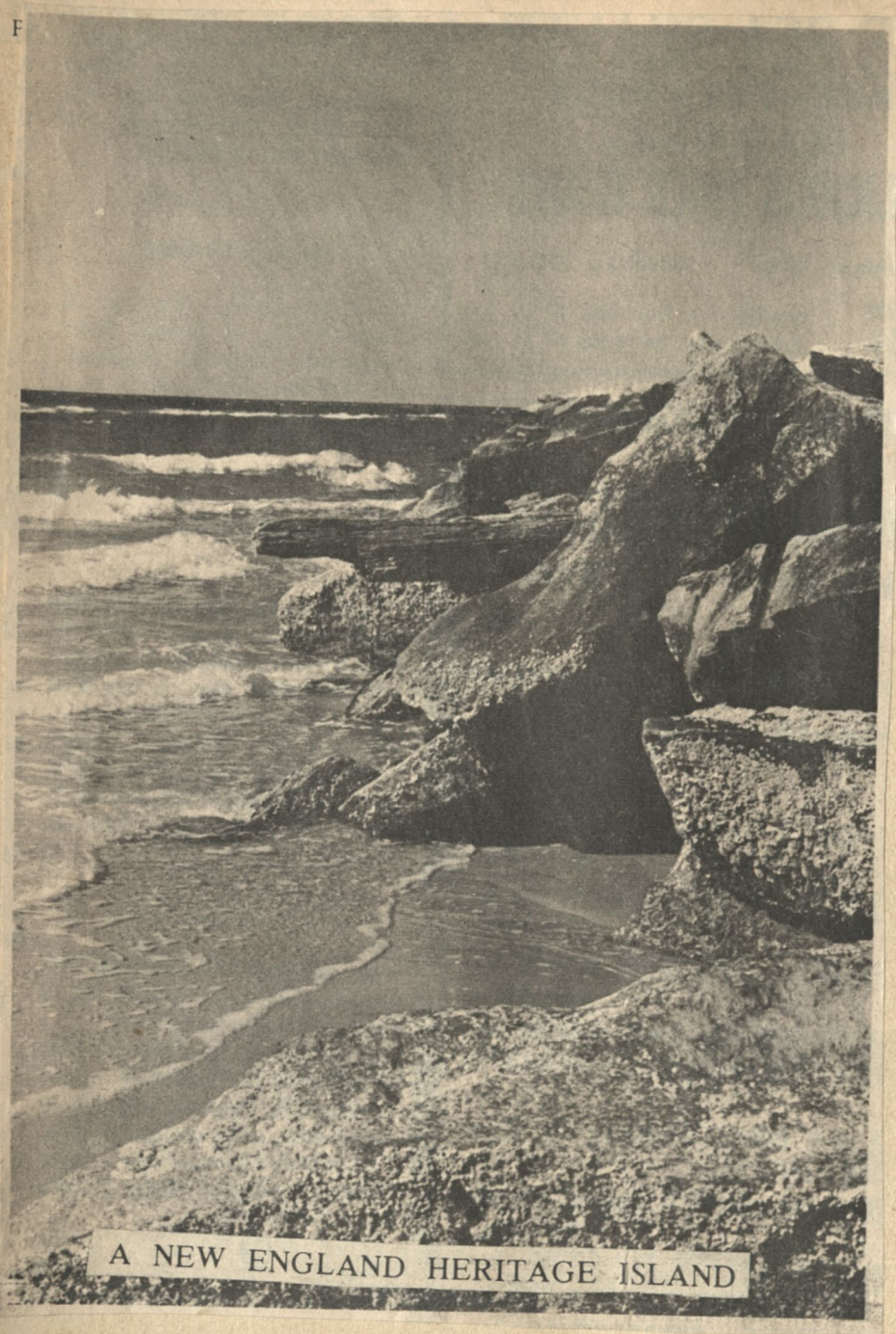
Today the Nobska was moved across to the other side of the Constellation to participate in Baltimore's upcoming City Fair. A check with her supervisory watch reveals that she will probably be open to the public during the fair for inspection tours. Arrangements are also being made to present an exhibit of antique automobiles on her main freight deck.

As one who has sailed on the Nobska since 1931, it is a happy experience to see her bright and graceful lines standing proud and high in our harbor here. As time passes, I will try to keep you in touch with her new life in her new surroundings.

Sincerely,
Ellery B. Woodworth

NANTUCKET HOLIDAY

Miacomet Fair
1974



A NEW ENGLAND HERITAGE ISLAND

The wholesome charm of an old-fashioned country fair lies in its relaxed atmosphere and community spirit. Tailor-made to display Nantucket's local talents, the Miacomet Fair opens Saturday morning at 9 o'clock at the Miacomet race track off Hummock Pond Road.

The popular dog show begins at 9:30 a.m. with a wide variety of dogs and puppies on display. Run by Mr. and Mrs. Phil Smith it isn't the standard type dog show but is open to all dogs — even those of "mixed parentage". Bring the family pet — he may be a ribbon winner!

While the dog show is on keep an eye to the sky between 10 and 12 o'clock for those courageous sky-divers. They'll be jumping as weather permits on both days from 10-12 in the morning and from 2-4 p.m. If you're feeling courageous take a ride in their open-cockpit airplane and get a different view of the Fair.

At lunch time wander over to the barn area for a hot dog or linguica and a cold soda or beer. There's a Pet Show inside the barn and a Poultry Show. Displays of local talents are set up, too, highlighted by the Children's Art Show run by Barbara Capizzo. While the children enjoy a pony ride or one of the many games, stroll through the Flea Market where you'll find almost anything. .

Check your watch for the Western Horse Show begins at 12:30 with classes in Western Pleasure and Trail riding. For excitement there's pole bending and barrel racing. This is followed by Games on Horseback: musical chairs, egg and spoon races, etc. The Greased Pole Contest at 4 p.m. provides a good laugh as kids scramble for the prize atop the slippery pole.

The afternoon is rounded out with a Mini-Bike Competition where riders will race the clock to complete the marked course.

Sunday the fun continues with Field Events in the morning starting at 9:30. Try your strength in the Tug-o-War, or your speed in a sack race. High School Athletic Director Vito Cappizo has many interesting contests planned for everyone to have fun. Cool off with a slice of juicy watermelon before heading back towards the barn where all the games, food sales and flea market will be in fullswing.

The English Horse Show gets under way at 12:30. Both this show and Saturday's Western show depart from the conventional horse show format to provide opportunity for all Nantucket's horses and riders to be represented and shown in the way best suited to them. This makes customized competition for all our riders that the spectators can enjoy so much more than the rigidly structured show.

The first class is Pet Pony on a lead line for youngsters just learning to ride. A walk-trot class for beginners follows. Other classes of varying degrees of difficulty are junior walk-trot-canter, walk-trot-canter, pleasure hack, junior working hunter and working hunter. The last two classes include jumping competition. A Drill Team exhibition will be featured during the show with young riders trotting in mirror image formations. Both horse shows are under the able direction of Clara McGrady assisted by Craig Hunter.

Come to the Fair! It's a wonderful weekend of appealing fun and relaxed enjoyment for the whole family.

1974

Old Spouter Pottery, after 21 years, has become an Island institution

1974

The Old Spouter Pottery on Lower Orange Street, owned and operated by Walter and Grace Karr, is a unique craft shop. All the pottery is of an original design and is hand made by the Karrs. Mrs. Karr is the artist in the operation and Mr. Karr creates the formulas and molds which used in producing the pottery.

Now in its twenty-first year of business, Old Spouter Pottery is brimming with pottery of all shapes and sizes, much of which can not be found anywhere else in the world. Every floral and fauna, be it a bird or a wildflower, has an affiliation with Nantucket. Other designs include lighthouses, scallop shells, maps of the island and the all time favorite sperm whales.

NB At the last "Coffin" family reunion, pieces were made with the "Coffin" seal and given to both sons family — Arthur Ellis Pratt Jr and Gardner Otis Pratt — 1959

Town Meeting article asks $2,000 for Coffin Park

1974

The Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission (NP & EDC), the Island's new regional planning agency, is sponsoring an article in the Town Warrant for next Thursday's Special Town Meeting which asks "to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds the sum of two thousand dollars ($2,000.00) to be used for the preparation of an overall site plan of Coffin Park. . . . "

The park land is located just north of the "Oldest House" between Cliff Road, North Liberty Street and Sunset Hill Lane and presently consists of a large field area and an area of trees and thickets. Deeded to the Town in 1935 by Winthrop Coffin, the eight-acre site is presently unused, although the DPW and the Harbormaster are using a small portion of the land for storage of equipment.

Charles J. Gardner, chairman of the NP & EDC commented, "If passed, this article will provide money for a professional recreation planner to prepare a site design that takes into account the historic significance of the land — the "Oldest House" will abutt the park — and the unique environment of the tract. After the plans have been drawn up, the Commission will come before the Town again for approval of the plans and appropriation for development. In other words, this article proposes plans for the park, not necessarily building the park."

Among the facilities to be considered in the site plan will be ball diamonds, playground area with apparatus, picnic area with adult facilities, natural area with trails, gardens and convenience facilities. It is anticipated that fifty percent (50) of the site will be left in its natural state.

The objectives of the proposal, according to Robert Jones representing the DPW on the NP & EDC, are "to provide for more balanced recreational opportunity on Nantucket, and to create a site plan that is characterized by low maintenance costs, easy accessibility and compatibility with the "Oldest House" and adjacent neighborhoods."

All funds appropriated for the park, including the two thousand dollar site plan cost and the eventual development cost, will be reimbursed to the Town in the amount of fifty percent by the State, contingent upon approval of the site plan by the Department of Natural Resources. William Klein, Director of the NP & EDC reported that state officials have inspected the site and have advised the Town that the project would be considered high priority because of its location, its natural setting and proximity to the "Oldest House." Site plans are a requirement for State reimbursement. Klein said, "While over 7.8 million dollars in state grants for municipal park and recreation development have been received by other communities throughout Massachusetts since 1965, neither the Vineyard nor Nantucket has received any money during this same period. It is important, however, that if Nantucket is to apply for fifty percent reimbursement, it must do so by July since the State will be 'earmarking' its fiscal year '75 money during July and August."

Proprietors deed "Great Ponds' to Town of Nantucket

1974

The Proprietors of Nantucket have given a deed to the Town of Nantucket to the Great Ponds, the Proprietors roads and the Founding Fathers Cemetery for the token price of $1.00.

The deed was accepted by the Selectmen and was to be filed in the Registry of Deeds today by Arnold R. Small, Clerk of the Proprietors. It was drawn by Town Counsel Charles A. Goglia, Jr.

The deed reads that the Proprietors give to the Town all right, title and interest which said Proprietors may have in and to the land and waters of the Great Ponds, including the rights of way thereto and around ponds wherever they exist.

They also deed to the Town various parcels of land not previously set off by the said Proprietors and all rights, title and interest to the Founding Fathers Cemetery to the east of Maxey's Pond. The Cemetery and land around it will be placed in the care of the Nantucket Historical Association.

In the deed, the Great Ponds are listed as Hummock Pond, Miacomet Pond, Sachacha Pond, Gibbs Pond and Coskata Pond. The shareholders in the Proprietors rights were listed as Franklin Folger Webster, 1 share, Matthew Jaeckle, 10 shares and the Town of Nantucket, 565 shares. All were in agreement on the drawing of the deed.

North Church to have carillon installed

Hymns and sacred music will soon be heard drifting from the Congregational Church steeple, thanks to the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood W. Smith.

Rev. Alfred Bingham, pastor of the church, said this week that the church had accepted the gift of a carilon from the Smiths with gratitude and thanks. "Hymns will be played at different times of the day throughout the year as well as at Easter and Christmas time," said Rev. Bingham.

The gift was accepted at a meeting of the parishoners of the church.

Eduard Stackpole

It was 50 years ago this week that one of Ed Stackpole's first short stories was re-printed in the columns of The Inquirer and Mirror. This was "Reclamation", which had been published in the "Tripod", the publication of Boston Latin School. Since that time Edouard has had many short stories, full length fiction for the younger readers, and many books of research on Nantucket history, whaling, the South Seas, history of Mystic Seaport, and others – all too numerous to mention – published. As historian for the Nantucket Historical Association at the present time, as past president of the Nantucket Historical and Maria Mitchell Associations, as a former editor of The Inquirer and Mirror, and in various other literary and editorial capacities, he has made a name for himself as a historian, author, and lecturer. Nantucket has reason to be very proud of this man whose literary endeavors began with one small story written while he was a student at Boston Latin School.

The Steamship Authority

ANNOUNCES

Effective June 13

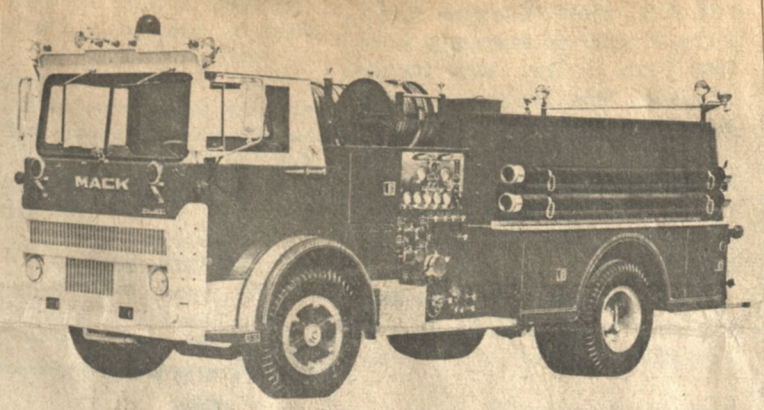
NO PARKING

Signs will be posted along the fence bordering the Yacht Club between the ferry slip and the Whaling Museum.
With the beginning of the summer schedule and the seasonal increase in traffic, the Authority is unable to accommodate the public in allowing them to park their cars in this area.
The help and understanding of our Nantucket patrons will be greatly appreciated.

1974

Old Masonic Hall, Main Street, 50 years ago. Civic League headquarters, second floor, Western Union Telegraph office, first floor. Now restored the structure is the Trust Department of the Pacific Bank.

New fire truck arrives next week



Nantucket Fire Department's new 216 horsepower diesel engine pumper will arrive sometime next week. The firetruck is due in Warwick, R. I., the Mack Truck headquarters, before it proceeds to Woods Hole.

Fire Chief John Gaspie said the thousand gallon booster tank replaces a 1943 model which will in turn replace the forty year old pumper in Siasconset. These replacements enable the fire department to send Siasconset's present truck to Madaket for the summer.

Late in 1972, $45,000 was appropriated in the Town Warrant to purchase the new truck which, because of the long time custom building fire trucks takes, was ordered in June 1973.

The pumper carries two firemen, one driver and one firefighter. Nantucket's department consists of nine paid workers and sixty volunteers. Chief Gaspie explained that the truck will be an aide in fighting fires where no hydrants are available because of the 1,000 gallon booster tank. This truck can be dispatched quickly and then relieved when the department's two large Tankers arrive.

The new truck may be used on any runs. May 1974

Fire dept. receives ice-boat (1974)

1950 — 25 Years Ago

A check made out to the Mass. Hospital Service by the Nantucket Gas and Electric Co. was among those stolen in the Brinks $1,500,000 robbery in Boston.

1925 — 50 Years Ago

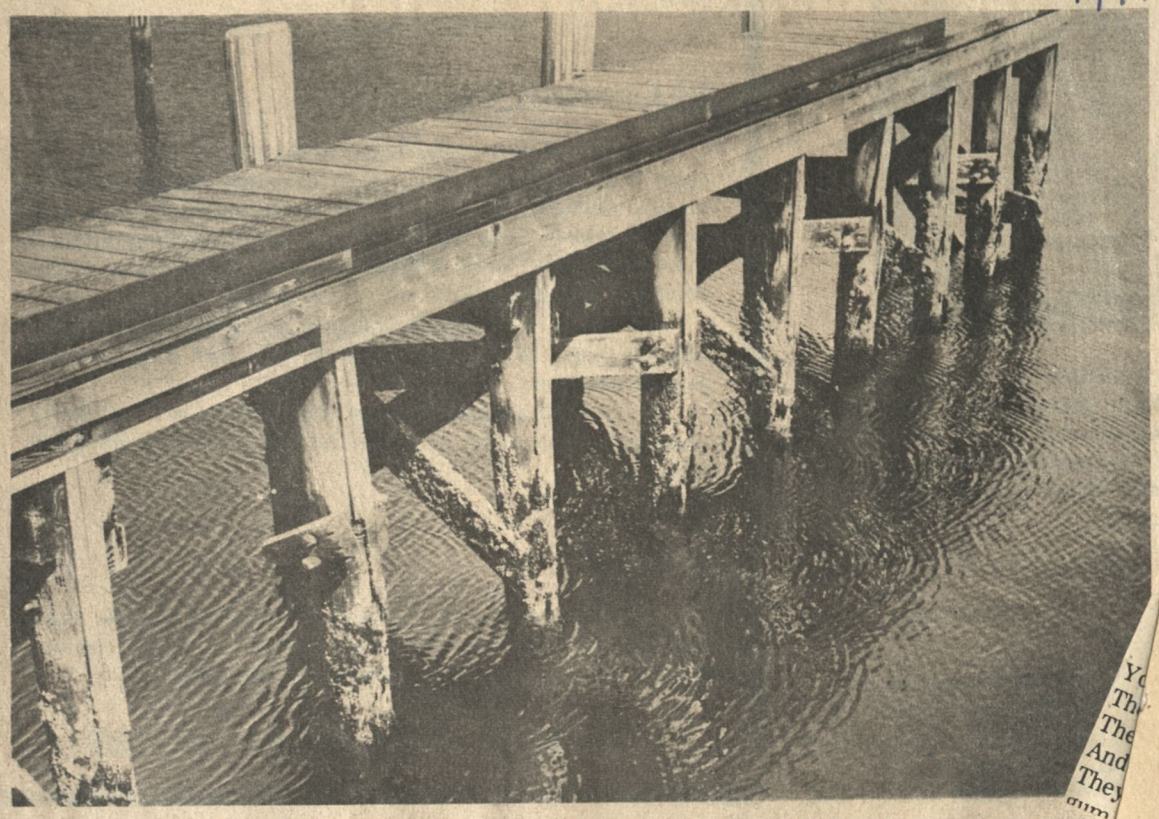
On January 24 Nantucket was right in the path for the total eclipse of the sun, its first in 447 years. The period of totality was 1½ minutes. The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association, Miss Margaret Harwood, Director, took exceptional photographs of the eclipse. At totality the temperature was 5 degrees above zero. Planets Mercury, Venus and Jupiter were brilliantly visible.

Sherburne Looms was incorporated, with Melville B. and Eleanor D. Melendy and Oswald D. Ingall as the incorporators. The Looms occupied the brick warehouse on Washington Street.

1950

'Ripples and barnacles

1974

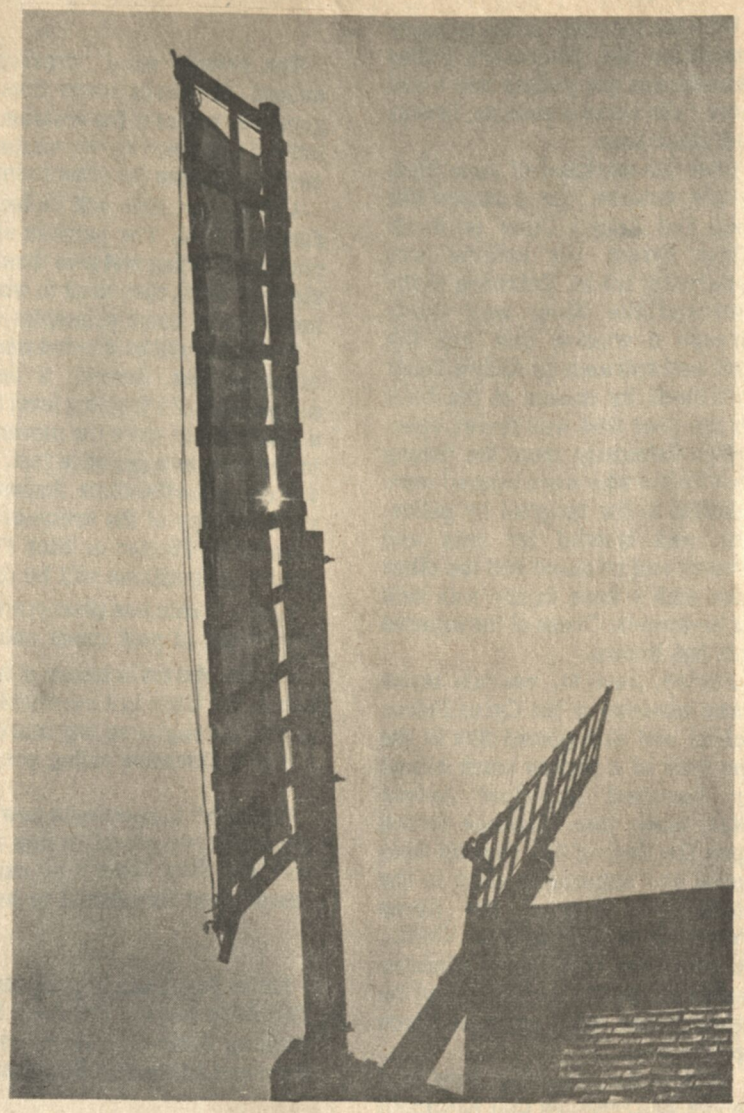


Pocomo looking east

1974

1974

U. Mass. group proposes study of wind power for Nantucket



At a meeting of the Nantucket Conservation Commission last Thursday evening two faculty members of the University of Mass Dept. of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research outlined a proposed study of wind power conversion for Nantucket. Associate Professors Frank Kaminsky and Robert Rikkers gave a general description of their work to the members of the Commission and the approximately 25 citizens present.

Rikkers and Kaminsky, who described themselves as planners and analysts rather than technologists, are completing a proposal to be submitted to the National Science Foundation not later than July 17th, requesting N. S. F. funding. The two professors wish to make a detailed study of the feasibility and economics of a wind-powered electric generating station for Nantucket, to be located either on the island or in the adjacent waters offshore. If the study is funded, and if it does lead in fact to the building of a wind-powered electric plant for the island, it will be considered a "pilot plant" for an immensely larger power complex further offshore. Such a power complex could be constructed beginning in the late 1980's and might generate up to 80,000 megawatts of electricity for New England.

Slides of Old Nantucket to be shown Sunday at Foulger Museum

Aug. 4, 1974.

Main Street–Above the Monument–1899.

One of the old Nantucket scenes to be shown at lecture on August 4 at the Peter Foulger Museum.

On Sunday evening, August 4, at 8:30, there will be an unusual lecture at the Peter Foulger Museum, sponsored by the Nantucket Historical Association, during which the story of Nantucket Town will be presented through the medium of old stereopticon slides. Titled "100 Years On Nantucket — 1846-1946," the lecturer, Edouard A. Stackpole, will use these remarkable old views of Nantucket to describe the development of the Town over this century-period, stressing not only the economic life but the social and architectural changes as well.

From the earliest known photograph of the Nantucket scene, these venerable glass slides will show how much of this Island Town has been retained, so that the fact of its unique oldness may be doubly impressive as the old views appear on the screen. Tracing the era of the "Great Depression" of the 1860-1870 period, the lecturer will show the development of the community as the "summer business" becomes the chief means of livelihood. Through the 19th century and into the 20th the glass slides will reveal both the growth of the town to the Point and Cliff areas and the changes in the waterfront.

Of particular interest are the views of the Nantucket Railroad, the development of 'Sconset, and the days when the streets contained only horse-and-carriage. The coming of the automobile will be recounted, with old views to dramatize this important part of the Island's history. Also, there will be steamboats of long ago, "freeze-up" views, pictures of the first airplanes to arrive, and portraits of outstanding Islanders of the World War I period. A number of the historic shipwrecks will be shown, with photographs taken at the sites as well as old paintings by contemporary artists.

The glass slides represent the work of Josiah Freeman, Henry S. Wyer, Maurice Boyer, Harry B. Turner and Marshall Gardiner — an array of photographs that are all historic in the presentation of the Nantucket scene.

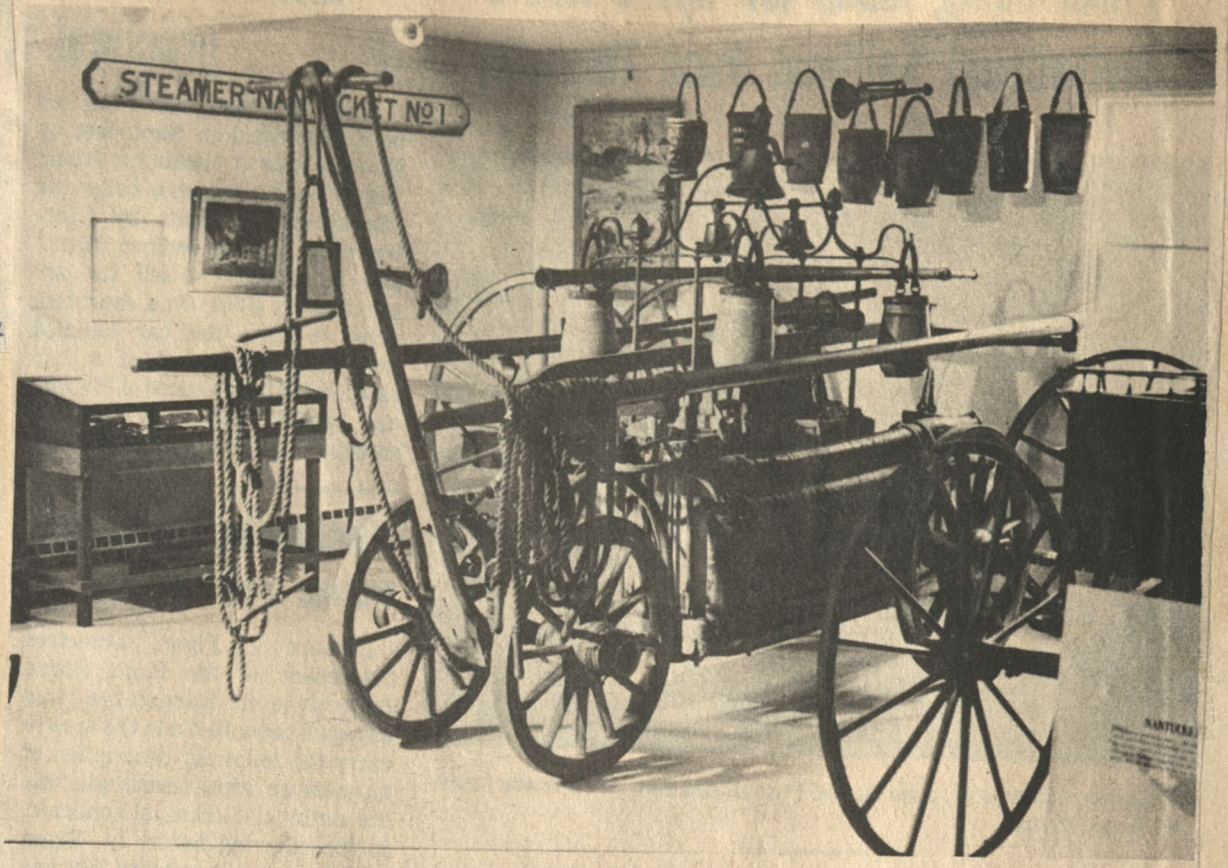
As seating is limited to 150 persons it is suggested that those planning to attend come early. The Peter Foulger Museum will be open at 7:30 o'clock so that early arrivals may find seats in the second-floor room, where the lecture will take place. The lecturer, Edouard A. Stackpole, is a well known authority on Nantucket history.

Ship Model and Cradle of Bone
Among the many unusual displays at the Whaling Museum

Aug - 1974

Today is the first of August, the first day of the last full month of summer for the year 1974. To those vacationers just arriving we extend our greetings and, at the same time, ask them to be mindful of the extreme dry conditions prevailing on the island. This applies to all residents – please be careful with all matches, cigarettes, charcoal grills, etc. all over the island. We need rain desperately and the entire island is a veritable tinderbox. 1974

The hand-pumper "Cataract" survived the Fire of 1846



The greatest physical danger to ever befall Nantucket was the Fire of 1846, a conflagration which broke out just before midnight on July 16, of that year, and swept through the entire business section of the town and totally destroyed the extensive waterfront and wharves of the Town. Not only did this thriving seaport suffer over a million dollar loss but its economy sustained a blow from which it never recovered and the decline of the Island's whaling industry began.

While the flames completely destroyed everything in its path there was one especial piece of property that survived. This was the little hand-pumper fire "engine" known as the Cataract, and it may be found on display at the Peter Foulger Museum.

Not only is this ancient piece of fire-fighting equipment of interest as an example of the type used in those days but it is of historic value to the story of Nantucket. A century and a quarter ago, this kind of fire-fighting apparatus was maintained by a private company, as the Town had no organized fire department as we know it today. There were, instead, a dozen private fire companies established as private organizations in different parts of the Town. Each had its headquarters which housed the pumper, and each pumper bore the name of the company — such as the Niagara, the Fountain, the Deluge, the Mazeopa, and other picturesque names. All responded to an alarm of fire in their respective neighborhoods, and in case of a general alarm all would answer the call for help.

There was, however, one custom which was to play an important part in the story of the "Great Fire of 1846." The first fire company to reach the scene of a fire was accorded the honor of playing their hose stream directly on the flames and the next company to arrive was supposed to feed the first pumper from the nearest cistern. On that July night in 1848 the Cataract and the Fountain arrived at the scene (the Geary Store on Main Street square), almost simultaneously ; and while they were arguing for the "honor" the fire spread so rapidly as to catch them by surprise. The flames were quickly out of control.

The night of horror which the fire-fighters experienced has gone down in history as one never to be forgotten. Many acts of heroism were performed by individuals as rescue efforts were carried out. Gun powder with which to blow up buildings and check the spread of the flames played an important role. The crews of two government vessels in the harbor at the time carried out difficult assignments. Citizens brought the priceless records of the town to safety.

Nantucket merchants need 20,000 pennies a week to make change

Children who turn in five dollars or more worth of pennies to the Pacific National Bank will receive the Treasury Department's Special Citation. This citation will carry their name and note that they have helped during the penny shortage by turning in their pennies. Actually, all others meeting the criteria for eligibility will receive the citation.

John Martin of the Pacific National Bank said that since the appeal for pennies in early June, more than 78,000 pennies have been brought in by Nantucketers. He added, however, that Nantucket merchants need about 20,000 pennies each week during the summer months or about 3,500 pennies for each business day. He noted that at present there are less than 5,000 pennies in the bank and as a result, merchants are being rationed.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston has only been able to provide the bank with about 7,500 pennies each week, creating a shortage of 12,500 pennies per week.

The Pacific National Bank is continuing their plea for pennies, wrapped or loose. Loose pennies should be brought to the safe deposit entrance door and directed to Mr. Linwood Proctor. The bank will pick-up pennies from any person who has five dollars or more to turn in.

Mr. Martin suggested some helpful hints for the customer during the penny shortage which will also aid the merchant. 1) always carry 8 or more pennies when shopping to assist the merchant in making change; 2) when 50 pennies have been accumulated, take them to the bank; [illegible] change, it may be helpful to write a check for the exact amount of the purchase and 4) many of the local merchants and restaurants now have Master-Charge; Bank-Americard and-or other credit card plans, it would be helpful to charge the exact amount of the check.

As pointed out by the American Bankers Association — "In truth, there is no shortage of pennies. The U.S. Mint has produced 62 billion in the past 15 years, and continues to turn them out at the rate of 35 million per day. Yet a rise in the price of copper — coupled with the human penchant for allowing small coins to accumulate in piggy banks and elsewhere — has reduced the supply of one-cent coins in circulation."

Many activities planned for Nantucket Fete

July 18 1974

Lightship baskets will be featured at the Nantucket Fete, July 18. Jose Reyes will demonstrate making the traditional Nantucket baskets on the lawn of the Congregational Church, Centre St. Another completed basket will be raffled off during the day. The raffle is being organized by Ann Kronenberg.

The Fete is sponsored by the First Congregational Church and will begin at 10:00 a.m. The programs and sales will run through the day and the celebration will close with a musical program beginning at 4:00 p.m. The fete will be held on Centre St. in front of the church.

Other activities include a parade of decorated bicycles and baby carriages for young people, a garage sale for bargain hunters, raffles of luncheons and dinners at Nantucket restaurants for those who want to try their luck.

Hungry fete-goers will be able to buy lunch, hot dogs and cotton candy. They'll be able to work off a few extra calories by climbing the tower of the church to get a spectacular view of Nantucket town and harbor. The tower sits atop a knoll which was once known as Beacon Hill, and has been open to the public since its renovation several years ago.

Coordinators of the fete are Mildred Taylor, Eleanor MacVicar and the Rev. Fed Bennett. They ask that any person who wants to donate items to the Fete drop them off at the church office during the mornings from 9 to 12.

New archeological dig to begin near Quidnet

The Archaeological Division of the Nantucket Historical Society is about to embark on its summer program which will be at a new dig relocated near Quidnet. The dig director, Barbara Kranichfeld, will be at the Peter Folger Museum on Sat. morning July 6th at 8:00 a.m. to talk to anyone who wishes to participate on the dig.

The site is located at a known Indian village and should produce interesting and instructive excavating. Only a limited number of workers can be accomodated.

July 6 - 1974

July 4 - etc. 1974

The Wharf Rat Club held its Fourth of July party Thursday, with Commodore Pete Grant on deck to greet the near 100 members and guests that turned out. This was the largest turnout ever, for a 4th party. Refreshments were served and a 3 gun salute fired, that shook the area.

Fine, warm weather over the Fourth, saw a huge crowd of visitors on the island. The Boat Basin filled up early in the week and the anchorage was well filled with boats.

Quite a few of the yacht fleet left after the Fourth but they were soon replaced by new arrivals. The boats hauled hundreds of people over every day and it was hard getting around the waterfront, for the crowd.

Memorial planned for "June" Bartlett

It has been suggested by one of Nantucket's business men that a plaque, or some other suitable means of commemorating "June" Bartlett, be erected at or near the corner of Main and Federal Streets where he conducted his vegetable and flower wagon for the past twenty years.

The Inquirer and Mirror contacted the Board of Selectmen, through the executive secretary, Arnold Small, for preliminary approval of the memorial. Other Main Street business people have also lent their support. At the present time plans are incomplete, initiated the idea along with his wife will become the chairman of the committee to decide upon what and where would be a suitable memorial.

In the meantime a member of The Inquirer and Mirror Staff has agreed to be responsible for gathering in donations from any and all of "June" Bartlett's thousands of friends – whether they be pennies or dollars. A special account will be started at one of the local banks for the purpose and it is requested that all donations be sent to "The June" Bartlett Memorial Fund", c-o The Inquirer and Mirror, Nantucket, Mass. 02554.

Oil slick in Boat Basin

A rainbow slick in the Nantucket Boat Basin appeared Wednesday evening, July 2 and was investigated by Coast Guard personnel and Boat Basin Superintendent Joseph Lopes. According to Chief Tolbert, they were unable to determine the source of the slick. However, the wind and what little seas existed in the Harbor at that time, caused the oil slick to disperse before any actions could be taken to remove it. 1974

The Inquirer and Mirror's regular reporting staff – Stuart B. Day and Miss Nancy Ayotte – is being assisted this summer by Buzzy Bissinger and Debbie Small. These four constitute the newspapers only regular reporters. Weekly columns are contributed by Tom Giffin, Charles Sayle, Merle Orleans, Ann Vollans and Elizabeth Gilbert – Airport Notes, Waterfront Notes, Looking Backwards, From the Horse's Mouth, and Needle Notes. The newspaper is not represented in news-collecting by any other persons.

"I and M" Summer personel 1974

Aug 8, 1974

The sun rose this morning at 5:42 and will set at 7:49 this evening.

Light your auto, bicycle and carriage lamps at 8:19 tonight.

Gentle, ground-soaking, welcome rain commenced falling in Nantucket late Wednesday afternoon, preceded by a few sprinkles earlier and a quick shower Tuesday which gave us less than .20 inches of rain. Wednesday night's rain brought renewed life to parched lawns, dried out woodlands, and thirsty vegetable gardens. It has been about six weeks since Nantucket had any appreciable rainfall and this was badly needed, not only for the sake of the gardens, but also as a preventive to a woodland conflagration such has happened several times within the past 25-30 years. By the time the life restoring rain had ended late Wednesday night, a total of 1.50 inches had fallen to quench the thirst.

Summer is technically not over for another full month. However, Labor Day is the 2nd of September, the schools open of the 4th in Nantucket, and most of the mainland schools open either the same week or the following. This early "end" of the season is expected to cause hardship to restaurants, stores, etc. which depend on high school and college students for summer help. Be patient if you have to stand in line longer than usual to be waited on or checked out of stores — remember that most places will be operating under "reefed sail" after next week. 1974

Nantucket still needs a substantial amount of rainfall. Grass fires start easily when humans are careless with smoking materials, etc. The Fire Department was called out twice this week to the Hummock Pond Road area, undoubtedly because some thoughtless person tossed a cigarette from a car or a bicycle. Please respect our woodlands and moors and help us to preserve them. Aug. 15, 1974

Old Mill-damaged

Last Thursday afternoon Nantucket's Old Mill suffered a most unfortunate accident – right at the height of the season – when one of the cross-arms holding the vanes snapped, putting the Mill out of commission. All four sails were set and the Mill was turning merrily, as we have all become accustomed to seeing it this summer. However, the winds increased to the extent that, before the miller could bring the Mill to a slow stop, as should be accomplished, the speed with which the vanes were turning made such a stop impossible and one of the heavy cross-arms snapped. How long it will be before the broken arm can be replaced is now known, but at the present time the Old Mill appears sadly incapacitated, although still attracting visitors Aug-1-1974

Completes Chatham to Nantucket cruise in nine hours by Kayak

by Buzzy Bissinger

Photo by Tina Pollard

While the rest of the Nantucket population sat in the sun last Friday, Robert M. Steinberg, a 25 year-old adventurer from Newton, Mass., sat in a kayak hoping that his compass wouldn't fail.

Setting out on a first-ever journey from Chatham harbor to Nantucket, Steinberg had only a compass and some common sense to show him the way (one wrong move might have planted him out to sea for a lifetime). Fortunately there were no tactical errors made and the Boston University graduate completed the 25-nautical-mile course in only nine hours, excluding rest stops.

The trip went off without a flaw. Steinberg left Chatham Harbor Thursday at 1 p.m. He arrived at Monomoy Point at 3:30, and then headed for Great Point after an hour's rest. He spent the night at the island's tip and paddled into Nantucket Harbor Friday morning at 11.

June 28, 1974

STACKPOLE AUTOGRAPH FESTIVAL JUNE 28

Currently available Stackpoleana: **Nantucket Rebel** $4.95, **Smuggler's Luck** $5., **Whales & Destiny** $15., **Nantucket in Color** $4.95, **The Forgotten Man of the Boston Tea Party** $1.50 and **Life Saving — Nantucket** $10. Don't be deceived by the rather bland jacket on "Life Saving". Between those covers you'll find out all about our lighthouses, surf boats, etc., etc., and especially the thrilling rescues — all of which happened right here!

On Friday the twenty-eighth, at 3 o'clock, our store will be exactly six years old. What better way to celebrate this than to honor Edouard A. Stackpole of Nantucket!

So bring in for autographing your old copies of "The Sea Hunters" and "Madagascar Jack", both, alas, long out of print. Also bring the others, shown above, that are still available at, ahem, Mitchell's. We are happy to report that "Nantucket in Color", published in January, may well become the top best seller of any book every written about Nantucket.

Ed Stackpole does not consider himself a photographer, but his superb portrait of "Shenandoah" racing past Brant Point has never been surpassed. Full-color poster is $5.

New Stackpole Book Due in September

NANTUCKET DOORWAYS: Thresholds to the Past will reveal the history that was made behind our front entrances and how they symbolize our unique past. It will have 57 photos and the tab will be $7.95.

Footnote. Ed Stackpole's many achievements are well known in Nantucket, in America and, indeed, in many other lands. Almost unknown is his talent as a humorous raconteur. If you don't quite believe us, ask him some evening how Prohibition affected Nantucket. Please do not ask him while he is autographing — some of his yarns, even today, may still be in the "confidential" area.

OTHER FARE 1974

At 3 PM Friday, June 28, you are invited to help us celebrate with a cup of WHALER'S DESTINY (zero-proof punch) — which can wash down our famous EDDIE'S STACKCAKES (cupcakes with orange or blue frosting).

Kynett Library dedicated at Life Saving Museum

H. H. KYNETT
1889 - 1973
"DOC" KYNETT THROUGH HIS INTEREST, GENEROSITY AND PERSEVERANCE, MADE THIS MUSEUM A REALITY.
THE LIBRARY IS A FITTING TRIBUTE TO HIS PASSION FOR BOOKS, LOVE OF MARITIME HISTORY AND TO HIS ADMIRATION OF MEN INVOLVED WITH THE SEA.
THE KYNETT LIBRARY
DEDICATED JUNE 14, 1974

Approximately fifty people gathered at the Life Saving Museum on Polpis Road last Friday noon for the dedication of the Kynett Library room. Nantucket's historian and long time friend of Mr. Kynett, Edouard A. Stackpole, delivered the dedication speech, giving the background and philanthropic deeds of the Museum's benefactor.

Address — in part.

We are meeting here today to dedicate this room to the memory of a most unusual man — Harold H. Kynett — known to his friends and business associates as "Doc" Kynett. It was my privilege to have known him intimately over a period of 25 years, and during that span I have seen and participated in many of the presentations of gifts he has made to the enrichment of historical associations, art museums and libraries. In practically all of these circumstances he not only remained in the background but wished little or no publicity to be attached to his gifts.

When this newest of Nantucket's museums — The Nantucket Life Saving Museum — was broached, and the initial plans contemplated, it was in "Doc" Kynett's house at 118 Main Street that the organization was formed. The acquisition of the land (fortunately in an area protected by Bob Caldwell); the financing of the structure itself; and the restoration of two of its key exhibits — all was made possible by "Doc's" financial contributions.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Compiled by Merle Orleans

1834 — 140 Years Ago

In the August 27th issue of "The Inquirer" the following appeared;

Apology

"The absence from our columns this evening of the usual quantity and variety of original matter must be imputed to a severe attack of illness which the editor suffered yesterday. Any imperfections, therefore, in the contents or arrangement of the present number, we trust, will be excused."

—0—

1874 — 100 Years Ago

A Special Town Meeting, held August 26, authorized the County Commissioners to set off a piece of land "near where the Old Town House stood, at the junction of Main, Milk and Gardner Streets" for the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument. The monument had arrived, in several pieces, the same day, in the schooner "W.O. Nettleton" from Boston. The foundation was to be laid as soon as the site was determined.

A new newspaper, the "Island Review" made its appearance on the 24th, although dated the 22nd.

President Grant's visit on August 28 was acclaimed as the grand climax in the history of the island.

—0—

1899 — 75 Years Ago

One gang of fishermen landed 500 bluefish at Surfside on August 23rd.

There were unusually high tides. The railroad bed at the Goose Pond was washed out one night and not discovered until the train made her run the next morning.

Capt. William H. Tice, on Liberty Street, had one tomato plant in his garden which had on it 65 well formed tomatoes.

A Poverty Party and Barn Dance was held at the Siasconset Railroad Station.

—0—

1924 — 50 Years Ago

A severe storm on Tuesday, August 26, called the greatest summer storm in history, uprooted shade trees around town, causing the upheaval of sidewalks therefrom, hit the waterfront with full force, causing many small boats either to be sunk or beached from their moorings. Fortunately for many, the storm did not occur at high tide. The sloop "Five Brothers" was lost at sea, the crew being saved. Also lost was the "Thelma Snow", which went on the breakwater at Block Island, her crew being saved by the Coast Guard. The South Shoals Lightship was torn adrift from her anchors. The bark "Wanderer", the last New Bedford whale-ship, had been given a grand send-off, but was caught in the storm and lost on the rocks off Cuttyhunk.

Capt. Horace G. Norcross, keeper of the Maddequet Coast Guard Station for 10 years, retired at midnight on Wednesday, August 27.

—0—

1949 — 25 Years Ago

The Nantucket Poultry Association held its annual show on the grounds at the Sanford House. Over 400 fowls were shown by Nantucket fanciers. Of major interest were two black-shouldered peafowl belonging to Martin Foley, and a white mother duck with her babies displayed in a pond on the property.

A Hobby and Crafts Show was featured at Bennett Hall.

"On the Isle", a Siasconset Casino annual project, was this year diverted to the Nantucket Yacht Club, where it played for three nights.

Also on schedule this week was the Children's Masquerade and the annual ball, this year with a "South Pacific" theme, at the Siasconset Casino.

1874 – 100 Years Ago

The Women's Congress, meeting in Chicago, adjourned its annual get-together on the 17the of October. Miss Maria Mitchell, of Nantucket, was made president.

October 29.

1954 – 20 Years Ago

Thomas Gibson was appointed Assistant Airport Manager

Nantucket had snow flurries last Sunday and Monday; October 20 and 21! 1974

Nantucket suffered from hurricane "Edna" on September 11.

—0— 1954

Two hurricanes, "Cleo" and "Dora" by-passed Nantucket, giving us only high gale-force winds and rough seas. 1964

1834 – 140 Years Ago

Dedication ceremonies for the new North Congregational Church were held on Thursday, November 6. The new Church was built on the site of the old Church which was moved to a place in back of that where the new building was erected. The new Church was light Gothic in architecture. It had 118 pews, with a spacious gallery for the choir across the back. The ground floor measured 80' x 62'. The height of the steeple was 123' from the base. The Tower was furnished with an observatory for the convience of the public. A fine-toned bell from the foundry of H.N. Hooper & Co., of Boston, was installed.

Lane.

The old North Vestry, which had been restored and redecorated 1949 under the supervision of Leroy H. True, was re-dedicated on November 10. The Vestry building had been twice moved – once from its original site, about 1½ miles west, to Beacon Hill in 1765 and again to its present site in 1834 when the new Church building was constructed.

Nantucket as an historical landmark within the framework of the United States must be protected from modernity. Once destroyed, it will never be quite the same — despite millions spent for restoration. As a contribution toward the nation's Bi-Centennial celebration islanders and summer islanders should devote their time, energy, thoughts and money toward preserving and protecting this town and island, which is a priceless legacy to America, left as a heritage by a race of people who, in their own time, created this "Kingdom of the Sea."

Preservation does not mean wrapping Nantucket up as an embalmed mummy. It means maintaining an arterial flow of blood to sustain the life of this island community. Protection does not mean the creation of a police state, but it does mean the exercise of legal functions that will keep at bay the developer and the "get-rich-quick" operator.

"One-man picket line" protests condominiums

Monday, September 2, Labor Day, Mr. Alan Newhouse, who has been visiting Nantucket in the summertime all of his life, did something to express his indignation over the development on Nantucket generally, and the condominiums at Tristram's Landing in Particular. He engaged in a one man picket line on Madaket Road in front of the Tristram's Landing Development. Newhouse is the president of his own company in Houston, Texas, called Beahring Enternational, a freight forwarding company.

"One of the interesting things", Newhouse said, "is that some lady came out of there (he pointed toward Tristram's Landing). "She owns one of those things. She's completely in sympathy. I thought she was going to beam me or something, but she was just tickled to death with the whole idea. She's very disappointed with the turn its taking, putting so many up more buildings."

(Cont) "One Man Picket Line"

Asked if it is condominiums he opposes, or development in general, Newhouse said, "Well, I think it's development in general. Then you read about 442 parcels with 40 houses lots each being filed over in Surfside. That's probably two cars per house. Where the hell are they all going to go. We're going to run out of water, everything!

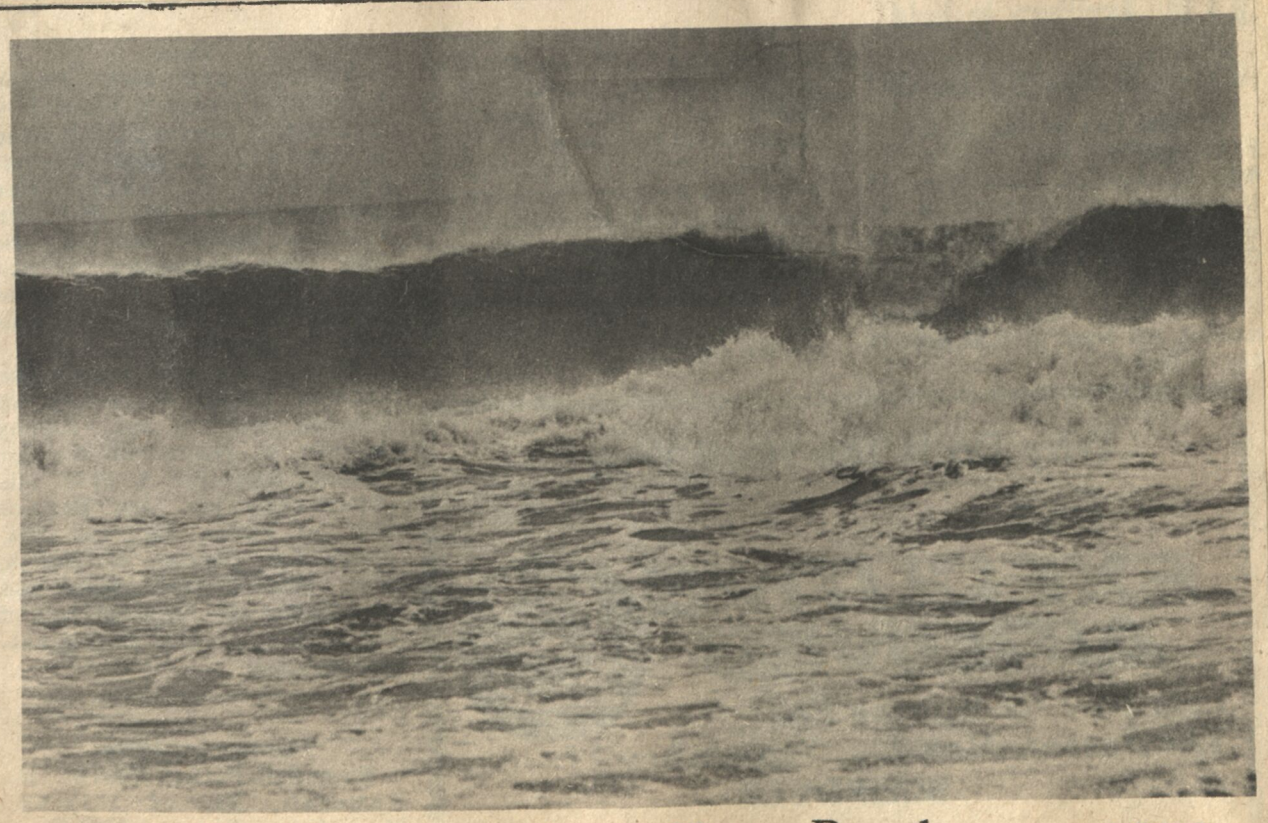
"But the condominiums are in poor taste in my opinion. I just don't think the island can support all these things and still have its integrity in things that mean something to people. It doesn't mean anything to me to have as many people as possible on the island. I've lost everything then, so why come here?

"I really feel that a lot of people who buy into these things don't really know what they're doing, and I think if we could make them think twice, that they'd have a great deal of sympathy with what the island is. Maybe they would even decide that there's no place for condominiums here, and they'd buy a house that's already built. Why ruin it for everyone? These condominiums are not native to Nantucket. They're completely foreign. Why build them, and why build this cluster type? The island can't support all these people. It doesn't offer anything to the summer visitor. You can go to Coney Island if you want to be near a lot of people."

Newhouse said his picketing on Monday was just a trial, and that he plans to organize something more efficient for next year. He said that Lindsey Perry and others from Tristram's Landing had come out and looked at his sign, but had made no comment.

Newhouse said that he had gotten a great deal of favorable reaction from passer-bys. "About 99 percent said 'Right on!' "He said," and have stopped to chat. It's amazing! If people from Tristram's Landing would come out here and listen to the comments, they would know the general feeling. How would you feel if you were going to Houston and you were going to put up the type of house that none of your neighbors liked. I bet you'd think twice! Nobody likes to create something that hurts the integrity of the place they're moving into. Maybe if these people realized that, they'd stop and think a little bit."

Nantucket Harbor stretches away to the northeast, its six-mile length protected by the graceful arc of Coatue and its six cuspate points. These evenly measured points are perhaps the finest example of tidal sculpture in the world. Coatue flows into Great Point, beyond, and just above it can be seen Monomoy Point, reaching southward from Cape Cod. At the foot of the harbor nestles the town, the color of gray shingles and shade trees. The numerous light patches in the foreground represent out-of-town construction, which has increased rapidly in recent years. Hooper Farm Road, site of most concentrated post-war building, is at lower right, with Fairgrounds, 'Sconset and Polpis Roads at far right.



Storm surf at Cisco Beach 1972

Marsh and sky

The quiet waters of Long Pond near Crab Bridge reflect the white clouds of a cool October sky.

Sankaty Head

Eric Holch winner of auto sticker contest

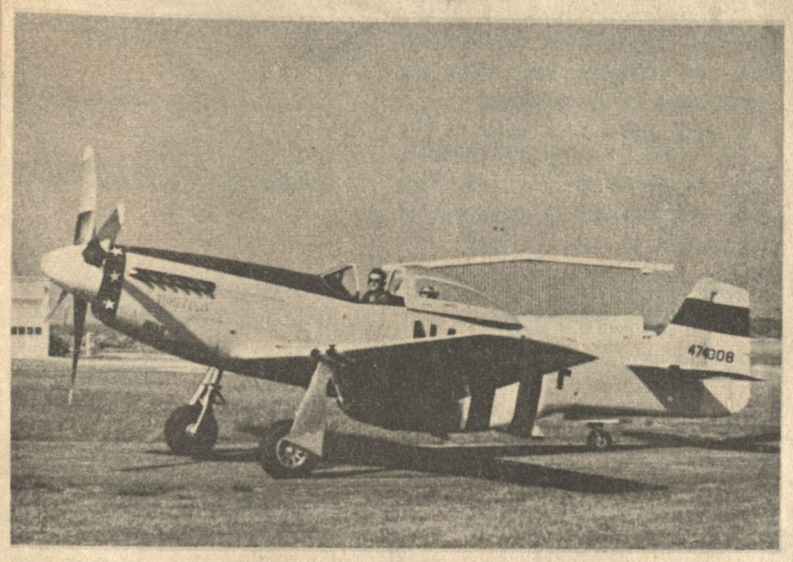
1974

Eric Holch won the Fourth Annual Automobile Sticker Design Contest. Announcement of the winners in this contest,sponsored by the Nantucket Conservation Foundation, The Inquirer and Mirror, The Main Street Gallery and the Nantucket Garden Club, was made Memorial Day at the Main Street Gallery. Mr. Holch, who resides in New Canaan, Conn., and Nantucket, received the $300 prize money for placing first. The prize winning design will be made into a sticker and will be available in the near future.

Evan Cooper, son of last year's first prize winner, won the youth category for which he received $50. Evan is 5 years old. Others winners in the youth category were first honorable mention, Chip Newton of West Hartford, Conn. and Surfside and second honorable mention, Jeff Shapiro and Steve Cohen both Madaket summer residents.

In the adult category, first honorable mention went to Hugh Price of Carlisle, Mass. and Quidnet; second honorable mention, Mrs. Robert Clements of Philadelphia, Penna and third honorable mention, Charles T. Griffith, Jr. of New York City. The purpose of the contest is to emphasize the fact that vehicles continue to be the principle agent of destruction on the moors and dunes. The artist is asked to graphically illustrate the major theme of vehicles keeping to the roads and off the moors and dunes.

This is the prettiest time of the year along Old South Road. The gold of the Scotch broom has been ripening steadily for a couple of weeks and is at its peak now, and another wildflower, Hudsonia, is also in full bloom, for its very brief season. Hudsonia grows in little clumps several inches high, like a miniature juniper bush, and for most of the year it is quite inconspicuous. Then in very late spring, for just a few days, it covers itself with a solid mass of tiny yellow blossoms, densely yellow, appearing as little golden pillows on the moors. There is a relatively large area of Hudsonia on either side of the road by the entrance to the Cape Cod and Islands Construction Co. sandpit on either side of that valley. Worth seeing if you like posies. June 1974



Sunday afternoon the field had a glamorous visitor which put a gleam in the eye of many a Cessna (and Stinson) driver. It was a wartime P-51D Mustang fighter, the ship which, perhaps more than any other, wrested air supremacy from the Luftwaffe over western Europe. It was owned and flown by Chuck Krueger of Oxford, Conn. The airplane is powered by a Packard-built Rolls Royce Merlin rated at 1650 horses, and it cruises at an easy 300 mph down low, or up to 400 at 20,000 feet or so. Stan Merdith got a brief ride in the piggyback seat before the Mustang left.

A total eclipse of the sun is taking place today but it is total in its entirety over the Indian Ocean. We are not sure of the time lapse but we think we are safe in stating that it will be completely over before this issue of The Inquirer and Mirror has been run of the press.

Dense fog has prevailed during evening and early morning hours. Weather conditions have upset plane schedules several times during the week and the steamer's evening arrival has been delayed – but we must admit we don't know that the latter has been entirely due to foggy conditions. June 1974

Friends meet in Quaker Meeting House Sunday

Beginning Sunday, June 16 and continuing throughout the summer the old Quaker Meeting House on Fair Street will again be open each Sunday morning at 10:45 for a Friends Meeting for Worship. The meetings will be under the care of the members of the Society of Friends who happen to live on the island, both year round and summer. Visitors are always welcome.

These summer meetings in the old Meeting House were started about thirty-five years ago, when summer residents who were Quakers asked permission of the Nantucket Historical Association to hold their worship meetings there during the summer months. The Historical Association kindly gave its consent, and meetings have been held there each summer since.

The meetings are held on the old Quaker pattern of silent group meditation, with no clergy or programmed order of service. It is primarily a lay group, with persons speaking briefly in a spirit of worship as they may feel led.

George A. Selleck, a year round resident of the island, is clerk of the local group. Those seeking further information may call 228-

After two weeks of no rain, Nantucket was deluged over the weekend. The rainfall was badly needed, but it came all at once – all 1.70 inches of it Sunday afternoon and night and ending Monday morning. After the front finally passed through there were a few brief showers Tuesday morning but the amount of rain received during that period was only a trace. 1974 June 17 –

The North Church steeple is now spot-lighted at night, as it was prior to the onset of the "energy crisis". We now have two of the three church steeples lighted at night — with, hopefully, one more to go. Perhaps the Baptist Church folk will get some assistance in solving the problem presently preventing them from once more lighting their steeple in the early night-time hours.

DRIVE CAREFULLY

Keep an eye out for young children

School's Out

Sept. 1974

Here and There

First week of Sept. 1974

Nantucket's temperature this morning was down to 58 degrees, under cloudy skies.

The sun rose this morning at 6:10 and will set at 7:07 this evening.

Light your auto, bicycle and carriage lamps at 7:37 tonight.

We understand — that Daylight Saving Time will revert to Eastern Standard Time either at the end of October or some time in November — also that Veterans' Day will be celebrated this year as it formerly was, on November 11.

Labor Day weekend exodus was carried out with a minimal of discomfort to nearly everyone concerned. The weather, while hazy and foggy, failed to cause the cancellation of any scheduled air flights and the steamer schedules were maintained, with extra trips when necessary.

Wednesday was Nantucket's first rainy day in three months — a welcome rain which brought back life to parched lawns, was almost too late to save vegetable gardens, and cancelled out the hazardous conditions of our moors and pines which were at tinderbox level. Rainfall Wednesday amounted to .55 inches. "Dolly" went by in the early evening with winds only up to 30 or 35 mph. Monday (Labor Day) the precipitation was .30 inches and on Tuesday amounted to only .20 inches.

Part of this week's "Looking Backwards" column pertains to the "Top Cat", a vessel which called Nantucket its home port 10 years ago while its captain and crew made attempts to salvage the "Andrea Doria". Last Sunday evening, between 5 and 6 o'clock, a program over Channel 5's "Men of the Sea" was devoted to the expedition of Bruno Vailati, an Italian, who made a successful trip out to the "Andrea Doria", on the atern trawler "Narragansett". Mr. Vailati and his crew of divers and photographers made numerous trips down to the liner, encountering the dangerous blue shark, bringing back photographic proof of the vessel's present condition lying on its side, its burial in the mud at the ocean bottom to a depth of 15 feet. This 15 feet of mud makes any hope of raising the vessel an impossibility. The program was well done, reflecting the many, many hours Mr. Vailati and his men had spent preparing for the expedition in Mediterranean waters before attempting the descent in the ocean 45 miles off Nantucket, reaching a depth never before achieved by any deep sea diver in history. Before leaving the site of the wrecked liner, the men affixed to the wheelhouse of the "Andrea Doria" a plaque which read, in Italian, the following: "So that the impossible may become possible and until that day when the 'Andrea Doria' may see the light of day, may she rest in peace."

The Inquirer and Mirror, on September 6, 1924, noted that a man had flown from Boston to New York and back in 2 hours, 12 minutes — a distance of 365 miles. On Monday, September 1, 1974, a U.S. Air Force SR71 spy plane flew from New York to London — a distance of 3490 miles — in one hour, 56 minutes. The SR71 flew more than 15 miles above the earth and maintained an average speed of 1800 mph.

Sept. 8 - 12

Tides in Nantucket Harbor

1974

	high	Low
sept. 6	4:01 p.m.	9:35 a.m.
Sept. 7	4:46 p.m.	10:19 a.m.
Sept. 8	5:36 p.m.	11:06 a.m.
Sept. 9	6:11 a.m.	12:01 p.m.
Sept. 10	7:09 a.m.	1:01 p.m.
Sept. 11	8:12 a.m.	2:05 p.m.
Sept. 12	9:17 a.m.	3:08 p.m.
Sept. 13	10:15 a.m.	4:08 p.m.

Sunrise and Sunset

1974

Sept. 5	6:10 a.m.	7:08 p.m.
Sept. 6	6:11 a.m.	7:05 p.m.
Sept. 7	6:12 a.m.	7:04 p.m.
sept. 8	6:13 a.m.	7:02 p.m.
Sept. 9	6:14 a.m.	6:58 p.m.
Sept 10	6:15 a.m.	6:58 p.m.
Sept. 11	6:16 a.m.	6:57 p.m.

Edited each week.

Sept. 1974

The Wharf Rat Club held its annual Labor Day stag party Monday Sept. 2, with 50 members on deck for a right fine time, with plenty of food and beverages on hand. The club will be open till around the middle of September. The Wharf Rat Club was started back around 1915 or 1916 in the days when a lot of quahoging was being done. Charlie Coffin in those days was buying quahogs from the fishermen in this building.

Hurricane Dolly came up the coast last Wednesday and gale flags were flying for 40 to 50 mile winds. Five draggers were in for shelter. A small fleet was out in the anchorage and the fleet in the Boat Basin was snugged down just in case.

STEAMSHIP AUTHORITY NANTUCKET TRAFFIC:

In response to a request from The Inquirer and Mirror, the Steamship Authority has agreed to break down its traffic statistics to show business to and from each island separately. Passengers and cars carried to and from Nantucket in the first nine months of 1974, and of 1973 for a comparison, were as follows:

	Passengers		Cars	
	1973	1974	1973	1974
Woods Hole-Nantucket	65,742	66,162	10,081	9,974
Oak Bluffs-Nantucket	4,899	5,458	103	153
Hyannis-Nantucket	58,377	59,783	6,087	5,881
	129,018	131,403	16,271	16,008
Nantucket-Woods Hole	61,862	64,600	8,618	9,329
Nantucket-Oak Bluffs	4,472	5,067	72	86
Nantucket-Hyannis	63,039	62,631	6,671	5,871
	129,373 -	132,298	15,361 -	15,286

Passengers to the island are up 1.8 percent, and inbound cars are down 1.6 percent. Passengers leaving Nantucket increased 2.3 percent, and cars leaving declined one-half of one percent.

Re - Hurricanes

WATERFRONT NEWS

Charles F. Seyle

Word of hurricane Carrie coming up the coast brought three draggers in Friday afternoon. By Saturday afternoon ten boats had come in and tied up to ride out the breeze, still spoken of by the weather bureau as going to bother us very little as it was dying down and would bring only a little bit of rain. It is generally figured by the fishermen when the bureau calls for 35 to 45 miles of wind, figure on double with an approaching easterly breeze, as they usually fool the bureau. It started to rain around midnight and by early Monday morning a little over five inches of rain had fallen here, while the Vineyard, which caught the center received up to ten inches. Wind blew from the south-east Saturday night and Sunday morning, a good 35 to 40 miles an hour, filling a lot of the small open boats around the Yacht Club area to loo-ard. It was near calm Sunday afternoon as the center passed, but that evening struck out of the north with some rain and winds hitting up into the seventies at times with fifty-five and sixty steady. One gust was reported at 91, from Brant Point. That set things jumping in the harbor and by 8 p.m. several small 30 to 35 foot sailing craft were ashore or headed that way. The Brant Point Coast Guard was out hauling two or three boats to wind-ard from the Monomoy flat where they had dragged. They were anchored again up toward Brant Point or tied in the Boat Basin. One of the dragging yachts fouled Ken Duce's boat, moored off the Nantucket Ship yard, doing quite a bit of damage. Edwin Nickerson's scallop boat dragged two seventy five pound mushroom anchors across the flat. Edwin worked the boat back next morning after the wind had eased off. Three yachts were well ashore by Monday morning, two at the creeks, just clear of the grass and the other was at Monomoy, high and dry. Mike Todd came over with his amphibious vehicle Monday evening, and hauled one off at high water that evening. Tuesday morning a sport fisherman hauled the sloop off from the Creek area. Both were undamaged. Lucky it was this breeze did not strike a week or so earlier as the anchorage was full at that time. Most of the fleet had left the later part of last week. Monday morning some one had a gas pump out pumping out some of the small boats that had filled. We came out lucky again with little damage of any account and gave our summer visitors some extra excitement. No boats in or out Sunday so departure plans of many were fouled up. The S.S. Authority made some extra trips after the breeze to take care of those who lost out on Sunday.

Hurricanes have been making the news lately, thus far all of them either going away from us or dwindling out to less than tropical storms. We had "Carol" on August 31 and "Edna" on September 11, both in 1954. "Connie" and "Diane" passed us by in 1955. "Donna" hit us with 73 mph winds on September 12, 1960, and "Esther" washed out Broad Creek Crossing and made Smith's Point an island September 20, the following year. These are the ones we remember the clearest here on Nantucket, although lots of our fabulous "nor'easters" could be given names but it seems that only the late August and September storms are labelled.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Compiled by Merle Orleans

1832—140 Years Ago

The ship launched from the Brant Point ways on August 25 was christened "Charles Carroll". Intended for whaling, the vessel was 360 tons burthen.

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1872—100 Years Ago

Seven shares of Pacific National Bank stock were sold at auction—4 at $132 1/8, and the other 3 at $132.

The schooner "G. Barrows", from St. Johns for Providence with a load of lumber, went aground on Great Point Rip September 2nd. The deck load was thrown overboard and the vessel floated off just about the time the steamer "Island Home", which had been sent for, reached her.

$2.00 was all it cost for the new edition of "Miriam Coffin", published n one volume.

1874 — 100 Years Ago

Capt. Elihu Coleman, age 87, the oldest of the Nantucket whaling captains, died September 18. He had made many voyages and had been active until the ago of 58. His last voyage had been to the Pacific in the "Obed Mitchell" in 1845.

1834 — 140 Years Ago

September 7 — arrived at Edgartown Nantucket ship "Alexander", Capt. Swain, from the Pacific with 1600 bbls sperm. Had been gone 34 months.

September 8 — arrived sloop "Amazon", Capt. Riddell, had landed one humpback, 25 bbls.; sloop "Warren", Capt. Bunker, no oil.

September 9 — arrived schooner "Reliance", Capt. Tract, no oil.

September 9 — arrived sloop "Hazard", 225 bbls. oil, absent 10½ months.

Cyrus Peirce advertised his fall term of schooling would commence on Sept. 16th at No. 25 Orange Street.

—0—

1874 — 100 Years Ago

"Through the excellent arrangements of the Old Colony Railroad Co., one is now enabled to reach this isle of the sea from any portion of New England within a radius of 100 miles in a day. The two boats that they run between Woods Hole and this island. . . . are a great convenience to the travelling public. . . ."

—0—

1899 — 75 Years Ago

The local representatives of the Mass. Humane Society — Messrs. R.B. Coffin and W.H. Norcross — superintended the packing of complete sets of life-saving apparatus in the society's house on Tuckernuck.

—0—

1924 — 50 Years Ago

The heaviest taxpayer on Nantucket was the Wannacomet Water Company, paying $3,189.27. Next was the Citizens' Gas, Electric and Power Company, paying $2,329.95.

The town's new motor pumper collided with a truck loaded with empty cranberry boxes on the way to a fire in 'Sconset. The truck crossed the road to enter the bog directly in front of the fire apparatus.

Nantucket schools opened with an enrollment of 492 pupils.

The Nantucket Yacht Club was granted a license to show movies from July 1 to September 15 for club members and guests.

—0—

1949 — 25 Years Ago

"Blue Waters" on Hulbert Avenue was sold by Mrs. Kathryn T. Minshall to Mr. and Mrs. George E. Vigouroux, Jr. The house had been built in 1938.

One of the worst marine disasters in recent years occurred September 9 when the 28-foot cruiser "Constance", of Falmouth, was sunk when anchored on Tuckernuck Shoal during a sudden thunderstorm. Only two of the eleven occupants of the boat survived — Russell Palmer, the skipper, and Alfred Allenby.

Luckier than the above was John Meilbye, skipper of Yerxa's "Dancing Lady", who made port safely in Hither Creek. Passengers were Mr. and Mrs. John Hays Hammond.

1974

"The Hub" is to be sold this month

The Hub, probably the most popular spot on the island at the corner of Federal and Main Street, will have new owners the middle of the month. On Tuesday, October 15, Scott and Deborah Anderson will take over the store from Fred and Evelyn Bennett. In announcing the sale, the Bennetts said, "we will miss seeing our friends each day — a great and glorious experience! We want to say thanks to the people of Nantucket for everything."

The young Anderson couple are long time friends of the Bennetts. Rev. Bennett officiated at the Ecumenical service, along with Father James Fahey, that joined the couple in marriage in August of 1970. Scott's father has been a long time golf partner of Rev. Bennett.

Scott Anderson, 26, comes to the business well prepared. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration with a major in marketing and management. He graduated from Ashland College in Ashland, Ohio in 1971. He obtained his M.B.A. degree with a marketing concentration from the University of Florida in 1972. His employment experience has been in managing. He has been manager of the Far Seas Ice Cream Co., the commercial hotel laundry Hyannis Laundry and is presently the Assistant Manager of the Rivera Beach Motel.

Deborah Anderson, 25, is a registered nurse. She graduated from the Children's Hospital Medical Center School of Nursing in Boston in 1970 and is presently attending Dartmouth College in the Physician Assistant program. She has nursed at the Children's Hospital open heart intensive care unit program, Mansfield General Hospital and the University of Florida Medical Center where she was charge nurse of the coronary care unit, medical intensive care unit. She has also served as a nurse for Dr. Andrew P. Grammaticas in Hyannis and presently is working for Drs. Grover Farrish and Gary Tratt, internists in Hyannis and preceptors for Dartmouth physicians assistant program.

Both Andersons are native New Englanders. They have been living in Ecology House in Marstons Mills, Mass. for the past year and manage to slip in and out while it is on show during the season. The house is built entirely underground and over 10,000 people toured through it last summer. It is presently open to the public. Donations for the tour go to the Home for Little Wanderers in Boston.

The Bennetts are looking forward to travelling. Sometime after the first of the year they will visit their other favorite island, Hawaii.

+ + + Sept 26, 1974

Fall has struck with fresh to strong northerly winds for a change and much cooler temperatures. There will be some more good warm ones though the nights will start cooling more.

Fresh nor'west winds came in early Sunday following some showers during the night. The wind held fresh a good part of the time Sunday and well into Tuesday.

A good many people are here enjoying this fine weather so the town is still quite busy.

Steamship Authority and HiLine are each running two round trips a day between Hyannis and Nantucket, bringing many people and cars.

+ + +

Accident takes life of Clarence King

A collision between a compact type automobile and a truck loaded with an asphalt mixture occurred at 3:20 p.m. last Friday at the junction of Macy Lane and Old South Road and took the life of Clarence King, 90, of King's Way. He was the husband of Mrs. Alice King.

The police reported that King's car was coming out of Macy Lane when the truck owned by the Cape Cod and Islands Construction Company struck the small car on the driver's side and knocked it against a telephone pole. The King vehicle was demolished by the impact. Part of the asphalt was scattered on the road and was to be used in construction of an airport runway.

Police said that the truck was operated by John Hughes, 37, of 12 General Patton Way, Hyannis. The front wheels and undercarriage of the truck were badly damaged.

The truck's weight with the loa was given as 49 tons.

Both King and Hughes wer taken to the Nantucket Cottag Hospital in the hospital an bulance. King had head injurie and possible cracked ribs an Hughes was reported to be in state of shock. King died at th hospital of his injuries about tw hours after the accident. It was th fourth accident fatality of the yea

Chief Wendell H. Howes said thi morning that citations have bee issued to Hughes for operatin negligently and for operating a overloaded truck. A hearing will b held Monday morning in Distric Court to see if summons will b issued to Hughes for a court trial Atty. Wayne Holmes will represen Hughes.

Sept 29, 19

1834 – 140 Years Ago

A notice was published in The Inquirer: The Pews in the New Meeting House of the First Congregational Society will be sold at Public Auction to the highest bidder for choice above the appraised value at two o'clock Thursday, November 6.

1874 – 100 Years Ago

"What is so rare as a day in June?" The Inquirer and Mirror answered: "an afternoon on 'Sconset beaching golden October."

The house on Orange Street, known as the Isaac Chase house, was purchased by Peter Sylvia for $1100.

1899 – 75 Years Ago

Pennsylvania newspaper compliments Nantucket as "heaven itself"

1974

Reprinted from the Harrison Independent with permission of Jean Cornell, Associate Editor.

By the time this appears, the higher echelon will be back from Martha's Vineyard, and avid readers will brace for a tribute to that sparkling gem. We have to get this in quickly.

Having sampled it, we will grant that the Vineyard is near heaven. Heaven itself is about ten miles to the east — a smaller, untidily shaped outcropping on the Atlantic called Nantucket.

One member of our party noted that on Nantucket "nothing is ugly." Nothing is. The smallest fishing shack is neat and usually covered with roses. They put trellises on the roofs there to encourage the roses to take a real ramble.

The streets of Nantucket Village are immaculate. We didn't see one "don't litter" sign, and we didn't see any litter. (The sole exception, in a week, was an empty beer can — Ballantine's — by the side of the road out on the moors.) No one walks around drinking a beer or soft drink or eating a slice. Ice cream cones are in.

There are rules the visitor never hears but instinctively obeys. You can leave your bike (and the island seems to be a bicycle breeding ground) wherever you like. It won't be touched. Biking is called by one rental shop "The cycle-logical" way to see the island, and it is.) You don't visit the downtown area wearing just a bathing suit, even though no one tells you that you can't. And it's a glorious relief not to see the overweight and casually shaped falling out of bikinis and shorts. Houses must be grey, which usually means weathered shingles. There are only six colors permitted for shutters, and we never did figure out what two of them were, but the Zoning Board certainly must have a lot of power.

Older houses — those of the whaling captains who once were the rulers of the island — are sometimes white, sometimes beautifully weathered brick. They are architectural gems and, we are happy to report, few are open to the public. People live in them.

Like much of New England, Nantucket suffers from quaint, but it is not forced on you. There are the inevitable historical spots, antique shops, gift shoppes, and needlework centers. You can buy scrimshaw or a basket designed as a purse. The latter can cost upwards of $100 and is known as Nantucket mink. But, with a little dexterity, those not interested can duck into the Sweet Shop or a book store and just lose the addicts.

In the villages, gardens run down to the ocean or harbor. Outside, sandy roads implore investigation and only rarely sport no trespassing signs. It's a hospitable warm-hearted place, inviting exploration of its abundant beauty. A roadside water fountain serves cyclists. And, in town, a bin on the cobbled Main Street holds an assortment of clothing. A sign reads, "Free clothing exchange. Take what you need, leave what you don't want." Privately-owned beaches also spurn no trespassing signs. Instead they may have discreet signs asking 'guests' not to litter the beach please.

You can swim almost anywhere. A few sections have an undertow, but the Atlantic is pretty icy anyhow, and not really for those over ten years old. The Sound, bays, ponds welcome you. The scrub growth is attractive, the open moors change color moment by moment. The gulls think they own the place, and may be right. They seem to have given up hunting for themselves. They tromp across cottage roofs, sit on decks, demand — and get — hand outs. On the ferry, they pluck potato chips out of passengers' hands, and have been known to snatch the contents of picnic baskets.

There are half a dozen hamlets on the island. Each has its own flavor, from Nantucket itself (the metropolis) to Siasconset (the elegant spot which must be called Sconset to indicate you are in the know) to the smaller, quieter areas of Madaket, Polpis and Wauwinet. It could take a lifetime to find the best spot, but it would be a life happily spent.

We left with the memory of comfortably warm days with beautiful sunsets and evenings lighted with a driftwood fire. With the restoring calm that comes from just watching waves. With happy memories of the casual kindness of strangers.

But with a myth destroyed. Some know-it-all told us that Nantucket is basically an Indian name. We had been happy in the old story that a few centuries ago a large land owner left three sets of islands to his children. Elizabeth chose the Elizabeth Islands. The second daughter, Martha, selected a grape-growing island, now called Martha's Vineyard. There was only one island left for the youngest, Nan. So Nan took it. Who needs facts?

The Honorable W. Norman Roberts, mayor of St. Georges, Bermuda, and Nantucket historian Edouard Stackpole at the Peter Foulger Museum.

Photo by Larry Cronin

Edouard Stackpole and the Cronyn enjoy some light conversation at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harbach. The Harbachs hosted a champagne supper for the artists and guests after the performance.

FOUND: 29 COPIES OF STACKPOLE'S "THE SEA HUNTERS"

THE SEA HUNTERS — The New England Whalemen During Two Centuries — 1635-1835. Rare reprint of even rarer 1953 classic by Edouard A. Stackpole. Illustrated, annotated and carefully indexed. 510 pages. First come, first served. Our phone: (617) 228-1080. $19.50

We don't know how it happened, but it did. We were shamefully unaware that Ed Stackpole's "The Sea Hunters", long out of print, had been reprinted a very few years ago. There is no excuse for our ignorance, but there are some things you might be forgiving enough to bear in mind. Author Ed Stackpole's modesty is about as great as his outstanding talent: articulate Historian. Another puzzling factor is the publisher of this reprint; had he taken the trouble to read or even dip into "The Sea Hunters", he would have learned that the book is very largely concerned with the whalemen of Nantucket, where the stores of today could provide an important market for such an important book.

Our first communication with this "reprint publisher" was when Mary Allen phoned him, and we decided to buy 29 copies, all he had.

A book embracing so vast a field required extensive and time-consuming research. To make this possible, grants were awarded to Mr. Stackpole by the Guggenheim Foundation and the American Philosophical Association. In order to show you the significance of this work, we quote from a promotion folder put out by the original publisher (Lippincott):

> "In addition to being the first detailed history of the early development of American whaling, 'The Sea Hunters' gives the first comprehensive account of the transition of the whaling industry from the Revolution to the War of 1812; the first detailed study of the migration of the Nantucket whalemen after the Revolution when the Ministers of England and France were bidding for their services; the first behind-the-scene story of the Nantucket-Dunkirk relationship whereby the Nantucketers salvaged American whaling in spite of British bounties and duties. It recounts for the first time the real story of the beginning of Cape Horn whaling, and presents the first study of the explorations and discoveries of American whalemen in the Pacific. And, above all, the actual discoverer of Antarctica, Christopher Burdick (of Nantucket), is given his first recognition in a chapter presenting undeniable proof of his accomplishment."
>
> (NOTE: Ed Stackpole has just told us that it would be more accurate to say that Captain Burdick was "among the first" to discover the five-million-square-mile Antarctic Continent.)

When "The Sea Hunters" was published in 1953, it was reviewed by newspapers and magazines across the country. We have selected two excerpts that help to summarize this remarkable book:

> "Mr. Stackpole has done a thorough job of showing how the blubber-seekers and sealers not only became the world-ranging sea-hunters and founders of a wealthy industry but also brought credit to themselves as oceanographers who contributed much to the world's knowledge and as seamen who 'gave a concept of internationalism' which was far ahead of their time."
>
> ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH

> "His book, admirably organized and scrupulously annotated, is an engrossing narrative that makes its own new and important place in the literature of the sea. Its style has clarity and spirit."
>
> THE NEW YORK TIMES

Stackpole to speak at NSDAR meeting

Jan. 1975

Mr. Edouard A. Stackpole, Nantucket historian, will be the guest speaker at the January meeting of the Abian Folger Chapter of the N.S.D.A.R. His subject will be on his new book, Nantucket Doorways.

Mrs. Clark Coffin will host the meeting next thursday, January 16, at her home on Milk Street. The business session will begin at 2 p.m. followed by the speaker. Tea will be served after the program.

Ed Stackpole gave a talk on 200 years around the Nantucket Waterfront, Sunday evening at the Peter Foulger Museum. This event drew around 140 interested persons, the biggest turn out so far to one of the talks. Slides of waterfront scenes from the earliest photo of 1860 up through the years, through the latest rebuilding of the waterfront to its present form, during the last eight years.

Before the talk began, George Jones presented to Henry Coleman, a fine, large scrimshawed whales tooth, on behalf of the Historical Association for his fine work over the years, for the Association's terest in Nantucket's great past is growing each year.

1974

1834 — 140 Years Ago

The famous Nantucket story, "Miriam Coffin", was republished in London. It had been entirely sold out on this side of the Atlantic save for a few copies in the hands of Nantucket booksellers.

\+ + +

Bartlett Memorial to be dedicated November 30 – 1974

The co-chairmen of the June Bartlett Memorial Committee, Walter Knott and Leon Sherburne, have announced that plans are now completed for the dedication of the June Bartlett Memorial Plaque on Saturday, November 30. The dedication on that day will be the culmination of the efforts of many people and the voluntary contributions of hundreds of June's friends.

This coming Saturday Manuel Santos, of the Island Memorial Service in Edgartown, will bring the granite stone to the island on the afternoon steamer, with the bronze plaque already affixed. It will be put in place on the site selected near the corner where June's vegetable truck has occupied its familiar spot for twenty-five years. The place for the stone has been made ready by the Duce Brothers who work with Mr. Santos and, as soon as the work of putting the stone securely in place is done, Elmore Taylor will surround it with a plywood covering, to shield it from wind, weather, etc. for the coming week.

At 11:30 Saturday morning, November 30, Walter Knott will open the ceremonies with the Reverend Alfred Bingham giving the Invocation. Mr. Knott will speak briefly and then introduce Robert Haley, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Robert Mooney, representing the Nantucket Agricultural Society, Mrs. Jean Mainhart, representing Nantucket Grange, and David MacKenzie, Master of Union Lodge, all of whom will pay tribute to June Bartlett. Following these brief remarks, the Plaque will be unveiled by Mrs. Grace Bartlett, June's wife, and Charles E. Flanagan, Sr., will sing "The Prayer of Thanksgiving". The ceremony will close with the Benediction by the Reverend Bingham.

Main Street will be closed off from eleven o'clock until after the dedication, to which all island residents are invited to attend.

The June Bartlett Memorial Fund, which was started with this tribute to June as its goal, will be continued. A scholarship fund is being established, to be given, hopefully annually, to a deserving Nantucket student who is interested in attending an agricultural college. Many people have sent in their contributions designating them especially for the scholarship fund and this will be continued. Contributions may be sent in care of The Inquirer and Mirror, to The June Bartlett Memorial Fund, to make this a continuing, living memorial to one of Nantucket's truly great men.

Fresh-grown Nantucket vegetables are still available out at Bartlett's Farm. There is a good variety of squash, as well as turnips, beets, carrots, lettuce, onions, kale and parsley. It's quite appropriate right now, with the June Bartlett Memorial to be dedicated on the 30th, that the Farm should still have a good supply of fall vegetables. 1974

Dedication of June Bartlett memorial Saturday at 11:30 a.m. Nov. 30, 1974

Last Saturday afternoon, right according to schedule, Mr. Manuel Santos of the Island Memorial Service arrived from the Vineyard with the granite block to which is affixed the bronze plaque honoring Nantucket's June Bartlett. Between the arrival of the afternoon boat and its departure, the 1½ ton block was lowered by a crane into its nesting place on Main Street, a space prepared for it by the Duce Brothers near the location occupied by June's vegetable truck during the summer months for the past 25 years.

Once in place, the block was secured in position by quickly-poured cement and covered with a plywood box by Bob Taylor, of Elmore Taylor & Son, contractors. The finishing touches were applied on Monday by the Duce Brothers — filling in the remainder of the space with sand and the re-laying of the brick sidewalk — and all is in readiness for the dedication of the plaque on Saturday.

The design for the bronze plaque was drawn by Albert E. Hawes of Nantucket and co-chairman Leon Sherburne had the design completed and cast in bronze in New York. It was then sent to Mr. Santos on the Vineyard where it was affixed to the granite block.

Dedication ceremonies will be held at 11:30 Saturday morning, with Walter Knott, co-chairman, in charge. Participating will be the Rev. Alfred Bingham, who will give the Invocation, introduce Mrs. Bartlett, who will do the unveiling, and close the ceremony with the Benediction. For the Nantucket Agricultural Society Bob Mooney will say a few words, as will Mrs. Jean Mainhart for the Grange and David MacKenzie for Union Lodge. The acceptance of the Memorial on the part of the Town of Nantucket will be done by Robert Haley, chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Charles E. Flanagan Sr. will sing the solo, "The Prayer of Thanksgiving".

Main Street will be closed off from Federal Street to the Pacific National Bank during the dedication, which is expected to take about one half hour. All of June's many friends are invited to attend the ceremony, which will take place rain or shine.

Fishermen saved by C.G. copter from Jetties wreck

Three New Bedford fishermen were airlifted to safety by a Coast Guard helicopter early Tuesday morning from their fishing vessel that had grounded on a shoal off the western jetty. The rescue was accomplished in the teeth of a northwest gale with high seas running.

Rescued were the skipper, John F. Lourenco, his brother, Joaquin Lourenco and Manuel Santos, all of New Bedford.

BM2 Paul Hess, in charge of the Brant Point Lifeboat Station in the absence of Chief Wayne Tolbert, reported that at 9:45 p.m. Monday night a radio call for assistance was received from the fishing vessel Algarve that she was aground off the jetties. He said the 44 foot patrol boat was dispatched to the scene and found that the seas were too rough and high to attempt to approach very close to the grounded boat. He said that both boats would have been damaged if they were driven together in the seas that were raging. As the tide went down the Algarve keeled over on its side.

He said a call was sent out from the station for a helicopter to come here to lift the men from the boat and that it arrived here at 2:47 a.m. Tuesday. After the men were removed they were flown to the Nantucket Memorial Airport and were transported in the Police Department's Rescue II vehicle to the hospital where they were treated for exposure. They were later released and were driven by Patrolman Thomas Logan to the police station where they rested and waited for an early morning plane to take them to New Bedford.

Police Chief Wendell H. Howes said that the Algarve is 60 feet long and carried a load of 6,000 pounds of fish in its hold. He said that at the police station the skipper said that as he approached the entrance to the jetties there was a very heavy rainfall that blotted out the buoy markers and the jetty lights. The boat got off the course that would take it into the channel and through the jetties and grounded.

Police said this morning that the boat is still lying on its side outside the jetties and they understand that people connected with the Stanton Research firm are trying to remove the instruments and other equipment at the request of an insurance company.

BM2 Hess described the location of the boat as about 200 yards to the west of the western jetty. The Algarve has an eastern rig which means the wheelhouse is on the stern and not up forward. The wind is blowing very strong this morning and an effort may be made to pull the craft off the shoal as soon as the wind lets up and when it is high tide.

Sixty-foot fisherman "Algarve" as she appeared Tuesday morning, hard aground just west of the end of the western jetty. The vessel ran ashore late Monday night while attempting to enter the channel between the jetties.

Mrs. Mildred Jewett, Congressman Gerry Studds and Walter Barrett, chairman of the Broad Creek Committee, at Saturday's open meeting held at Bennett Hall. Congressman Studds holds a photographic presentation on scalloping that was photographed by Larry Cronin and designed by his wife, Kathy.

Referring again to scallops, Ms. Mildred Jewett of Madaket vociferously objected to the low price (interleaved with a strong request to keep the Coast Guard amphibious LARC here), and evoked the Congressman's admiration for her spirit and forthrightness. "I'd like to take you to Washington !" he grinned. "Me and my seven dogs?" she shot back,

Wrecked dragger to be removed within 30 days

The wreck of the 60-foot dragger "Algarve II", which went ashore on Nantucket Bar Nov. 25th with no loss of life, will be removed within the next 30 days if weather permits. James Avila, insurance adjustor for the A. Veek Insurance Agency of New Bedford and an independent marine surveyor, stated that the vessel has not been abandoned, and that every effort is being made to move her in the immediate future.

A marine contractor has been engaged, and last Sunday he flew to the wreck in a seaplane, landed alongside and examined her hull, gear, and the nature of the bottom around the vessel. The contractor, whose identity has not been disclosed, plans to lift the wreck bodily with a floating derrick, since a number of planks have been sprung and the deck buckled, and the hull would not float without extensive work. Once in slings, the wreck will be taken to the contractor's yard on the mainland and there broken up for her fittings and fastenings. The "Algarve II" is 30 years old and considered not worth rebuilding.

Avila said that the wreck is not, in his opinion, a menace to navigation in her present state. The diesel oil has been pumped out of her tanks, and no gear or pieces of the hull have broken loose. He emphasized that, since the wreck has not been abandoned she remains a Federally documented vessel, and the unauthorized removal or theft of anything from her would constitute a Federal criminal offense.

The wreck is unlighted, partly because, as a vessel under 65 feet in a designated special anchorage (Anchorage G, marked on 1209 charts) she is not required to show anchor lights normally prescribed for a vessel aground, and in part because Chief Wayne Tolbert of the Brant Point Coast Guard Station, with the concurrence of Group Woods Hole, believes that anchor lights could be mistaken for navigational aids and be more hazardous than having an unlighted wreck away from the channel in shoal water.

Tom and Marie Giffin buy The Inquirer and Mirror

Thomas H.C. and Marie Giffin assumed sole ownership of The Inquirer and Mirror Inc.,Monday with the purchase of the interests held by Albert F. Egan and George A. Snell. The three parties had purchased the stock of the company, which they held in equal amounts from the estate of the late George W. Morgan in February, 1970.

Inquirer and Mirror publishea the local weekly newspaper of the same name, one of the oldest weeklies in the country. The Inquirer was established June 24, 1821 by Samuel Haynes Jenks. The Mirror was established in 1845 by John Morrissey and the two papers were combined April 1, 1865. The newspaper has an illustrious history extending over 153 years of continuous publication. In June of 1969 the newspaper converted from letterpress to offset, losing the prestige of "the largest page in America", and reverting to a standard size page.

The Inquirer and Mirror, Inc. is also a commercial job printing plant with both letterpress and offset equipment.

Mrs. Giffin joined the staff of The Inquirer and Mirror in January of 1962. Mr. Giffin entered the business in the summer of 1971. He had previously served as station manager for Air New England and prior to that was associated for many years with Cape and Islands Airline and Northeast Airlines. All staff members will continue in their present positions.

Nov. 20, 1974

Descendants of whaling captains sought

Dear Editor:

In New Bedford an enthusiastic group is forming a society for descendants of old-time whaling captains for the purpose of stimulating interest in the history of whaling and to take steps to perpetuate the history in ways that we hope will be developed by the group next month.

Already several goals and suggestions have been voiced at an initial meeting when about 60 people met at the Whaling Museum, and later at a committee meeting.

Another committee meeting will be held September 15 and October a general meeting will be held to consider guide lines for the Society and to make constructive plans for further activities.

Because of Nantucket's prominent place in old-time whaling there must be many descendants of whaling masters living there now. We hope to reach as many interested people as possible, and have them join the Society. Regardless of residence I think many would like to be associated with the group and be part of the planning. Also, the committee is asking readers of the newspaper items regarding this Society to notify eligible friends living out of town. Several have written to us from other states, wishing to join.

Will you kindly put an item in the Nantucket Inquirer and Mirror. Thank You.

Interested persons may send name to New Bedford Whaling Museum, 18 Johnny Cake Hill, New Bedford, Mass. 02740.

If possible, will you have a copy of the issue with the item sent to me, and I will send the money for the charge.

Thank you,

Sincerely

Mrs. Chester S. Howland

Scott Anderson, who recently purchased The Hub from Mr. and Mrs. Fred D. Bennett, has had the interior of the busy store painted a light gray, which has lightened up the establishment considerably. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have a pet dog which has made many friends among the patrons of the store in the past few weeks— she is "Gwendolyn", a charming little basset hound.

1974

In 1869 Rev. Ferdinand Ewer produced a historical map for his Nantucket high school reunion. A born and bred Nantucketer, Harvard educated Rev. Ewer was a true renaissance man. Using his talents as author, geologist, engineer and historian, he created a fascinating and timeless map.

An original map, donated by Grace Brown Gardner is in the Museum in Nantucket, Mass. A smaller copy in possession of Gertrude A. Pratt

1954 — 20 Years Ago

John J. Fortes, 35, was found in Saul's Hills area after spending 22 hours out in a blizzard. He had lost his way in the blinding snowstorm while out hunting.

—00—

1875—100 Years Ago

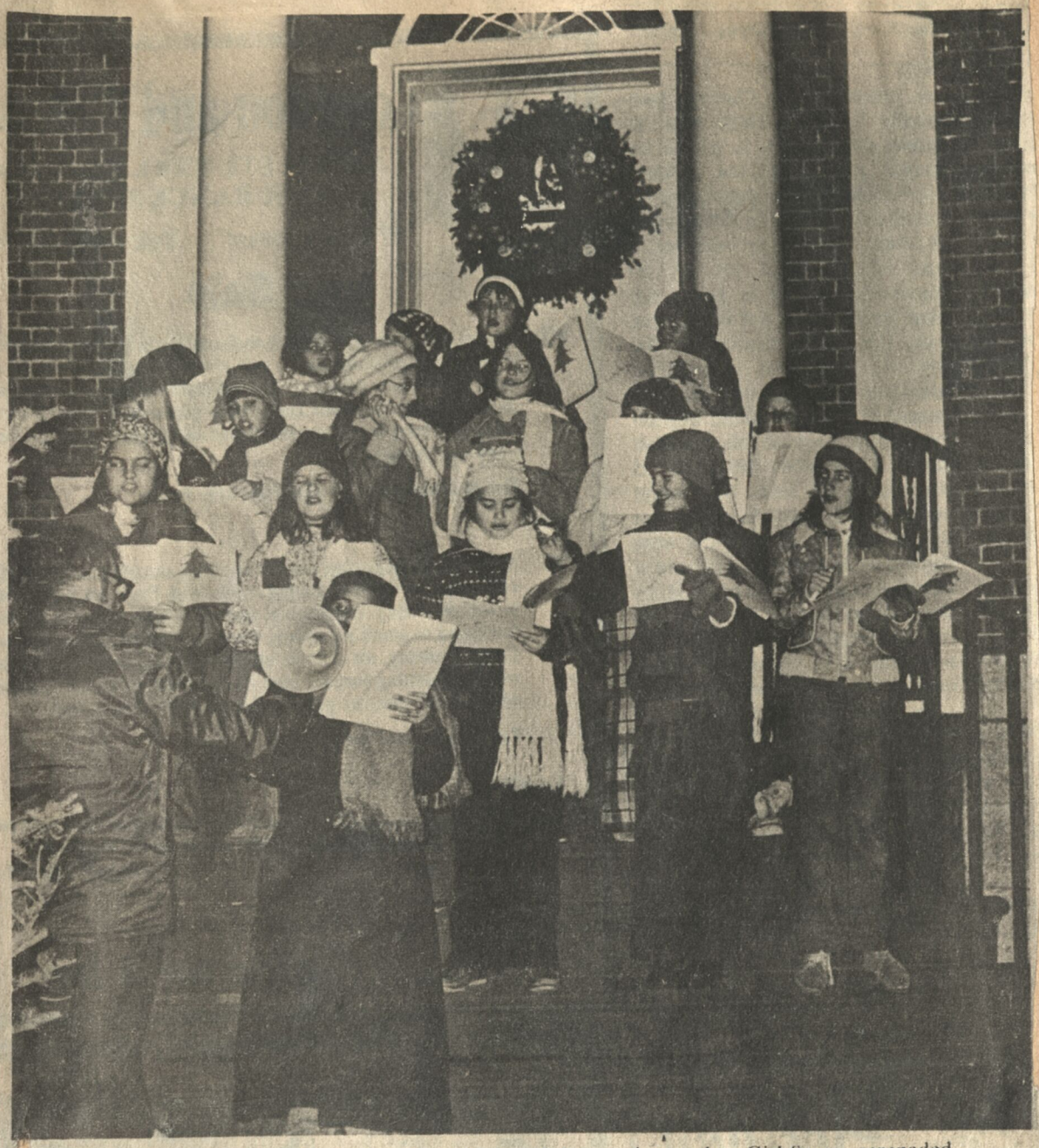
New postal laws went into effect January 1 requiring pre-payment of postage on all newspapers sent through the mail.

Total rainfall in Nantucket in 1874 was given as 37.82 inches.

On December 31 the temperature was 6 degrees above zero. On January 1 the harbor was blocked with ice.

—00—

"Deck the halls . . ." 1974



Christmas Carols filled the air to add to the joy of the evening as the Girl Scouts serenaded the shoppers during the Christmas Shoppers Stroll Friday evening. The girls, wearing long knitted scarves and stocking caps, sang from the steps of the Pacific National Bank

1974

The Christmas Bird Count on Nantucket will be held Saturday, December 28. All those who are interested in participating are asked to attend an organizational meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday, December 27, at the Maria Mitchell Library, or contact Mrs. Edith Andrews at 228-9475.

One of the nicest things to take place in Nantucket in many years was the bussing of Our Island Home residents downtown to the "Christmas Stroll" and the lighting of the Main Street trees last Friday evening. Some of the residents got a glimpse of Main Street for the first time in several years. This is the kind of Christmas spirit for which Nantucket is, and always has been, noted.

The pre-Christmas season on Nantucket was beautiful, with the stores gay with decorations and lights and many private homes returning to the outdoor displays which were lacking last year as a result of the "energy crisis". As always, however, there are some among us who seem to take pleasure in spoiling the beauty achieved by others. One such instance was the stripping of the beautiful lighting arrangements on the trees at each side of the doorway of the Charles Noblits on Union Street. Not only were the lights taken from the trees, but they were thrown into the street, smashed beyond repair. Christmas night someone removed all 32 bulbs from the outdoor lighting arrangement at the lantern-post and in the ivy at the Turner home on Pine Street. There have been other such instances to mar the pleasure of not only those who arrange the displays but also that of those who pass by.

1974

This morning Nantucketers awakened to the coldest temperatures of the winter season, the thermometer hovering just above the 20 degree mark. Snowflakes filled the air, a forecast of what may be ahead of us in the near distant future.

The storm which pelted our island with rain on Christmas Day, with puddles ankle-deep and river-like streams curbstone high, brought heavy snow to the rest of New England. The ski resorts are all reporting excellent skiing conditions, a boon to their economy for the vacation period, while the snowfall in Boston broke a 104 year record for snowfall on December 25.

1974

Gibby Wyer's Christmas displays were once again the focus of most everyone's trips around town. Gibby last year had no arrangements for the youngsters and, occasionally in the past, storms have destroyed his hard work almost before Christmas arrived. This year Santa arrived to greet the youngsters at Gibby's Flying Feather Ranch on the Surfside Road, the sheep, ducks, rabbits, horses, goats, chickens and other live animals and feathered friends mingled with the visitors and the spirit of the Christmas season reigned supreme. The cost of the display is being covered in part with donations from many of Gibby's friends who appreciate the work and enthusiasm which he puts into his yearly contribution to the season.

1974

Christmas 'Cuts' of 1891

CHILDREN ANTICIPATE the arrival of "Kris Kringle," also known as Santa Claus, in this large electrotype reproduced from an 1891 specimen sheet of Christmas cuts offered by the A. Zeese & Co. of Chicago. As Kris Kringle prepares to descend the chimney of their home, the children, in box at bottom left, appear to be awake, perhaps in the hope of catching a glimpse of Santa.

ELECTROTYPES offered in 1891 by A. Zeese & Co. of Chicago include a little cut (below) of Santa Claus climbing down a chimney. Illustration on right shows the angels appearing unto the shepherds in the fields on the first Christmas.

Open House at Hadwe House Friday, 5 to 8p

As has been the custom of Nantucket Historical Associa for the past several years, p are being continued this year special events over the Christ holiday weekend.

A special Open House will held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Fri December 27, at the Hadwen H - Satler Memorial on M Street. All members of Association and their friends guests are invited to visit beautiful mansion which is u the direction of Mrs. Phoebe S as chairman for the Associati Council. The Hadwen House-Sa Memorial is one of Nantuck famous houses built during whaling era and is closely nected with the "Three Bri across the street. These were b by Joseph Starbuck for his th sons and the two large w houses, of which the one on corner of Main and Pleasant S by William Hadwen for his w the daughter of Joseph Starb The other large southern-mans type house was also built by Hadwen for his adopted daugh who was a granddaughter of Starbuck.

The Hadwen House—Sa Memorial has been kept as ne as possible as it was in the e nineteenth century and m more than a casual visit. Association hopes that all who will join with them in visiting whaling mansion on Friday.

Sunday evening there will b lecture by Edouard A. Stackpo the Peter Foulger Museum at o'clock. Edouard A. Stackp former president of the Nantu Historical Association presently its historian, will giv illustrated lecture entitled Along Nantucket'sWaterfront: Centuries of Changes". There admission charge for this lec Seating, is however, at a pren and those wishing to attend advised to arrive early in orde to be disappointed. Mr. Stackp lectures are always very pop and this one Sunday evening proved to be no exception.

A joyful memory; the Christmas Shopper's Stroll

Dear Editor:

A Joyful Memory

Merry Christmas, Peace on Earth, Good Will To Men. Jingle Bells, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, Holy Night, Joy to the World, Jingle Bells, Merry Merry Christmas. We have carols all the time now. I want to tell you about the grand time we all had yesterday. Phyllis Lema and Annette Oldrich were the instigators, and prime movers — They came and asked me if I'd like to go? "Of course"! It was all arranged. They had the loan of a schoolbus and gasoline, a woman was going to be the chaffeur, and the way she handled that bus! You needn't be afraid to have your children ride in her bus. We were so excited all day! Jingle bells, Rufus the red-nosed reindeer etc. all day — The way they got us up into that bus! — They boosted and pushed, some came down the ramp — Mrs. Larson and Mr. Abbott Johnson were pushers from the start, and all the rest of the staff, except for those who had to stay and care for the patients who couldn't go — Fourteen of us patients went. As we drove out of our front drive-way we could see our own lovely big Christmas tree. We went down-town, and kept exclaiming and everyone was humming or singing Jingle Bells, Rudolph the red-nosed Reindeer, Holy Night, etc. People's candles and decorations were lovely! I never really realized just how we got up there, but we went down Fair Street and avoided the cobblestones, and parked just to the right of the entrance to the Pacific Bank — By this time everyone was quiet again — looking — The street was full of people. It was dark — You could just barely hear the girl scouts singing carols. I had put on my hearing aid turned up high. But the seeing! Did you ever see so many babies and little children out at this time of night? And so many dozens of fathers and mothers and go-carts, all happily delaying their suppers at home? Jingle bells, Holy Night, Hark the Herald Angels sing, Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, O what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh! Repeat repeat repeat repeat the sounding joy! Mrs. Larson is up in front — She has opened the door dozens of times — People are boarding the bus to visit with us. Here comes a father with a little child and someone else with another little child. They are Mrs. Eldridge's grand-children. She hugs them both — They are too big and too fascinated to cry! "Here, Miss S plese pass this to someone back of you". It is a bundle of sandwiches and cookies! Merry Christmas cookies, oh how good! "Would you like some hot chocolate" "Here it is, or do you want ginger-ale"? "Here are your paper napkins, and Towels". "Keep passing things back" — "Is everybody warm"? "There are plenty of blankets" — I say to my seat-mate "Did you ever see anything like this? What they've done for us", "Here's a cup", someone wants more hot chocolate — "Does anyone want anything more"? "There's lots here" — Once in a while we can hear the school band — They are really good! O Come all ye Faithful, glorius and triumphant, O Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem, Come and behold Him, Born the King of Angels, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. We are now all singing if not eating — Someone is pounding on our window — Its Ethel Ray she sees us and waves — A lot of others outside do the same — Hurrah! At last the lights are coming on! Isn't it a beautiful sight? Now we stay quite a while longer — I can hear the band pretty well — Our group, who have been in and out of the bus most of the time, begin to come in — Milly Lou stays outside — She is so very pretty, smiling, and so nice to everyone — Little Annette stays out as long as she can — Do you wonder? — She looks very tired, but she has no use for that word! Arthur Stetson was in. It was nice to see him — It would take pages for me to tell you everything! I suppose most of the folks in town who could walk, were there — I hope the merchants did well; Anyway, their windows were beautiful and we saw all we could of them — Gradually the bus filled again, the door was closed, and we began to move — Merry Christmas, Peace On Earth, Good will to Men! Goodbye Main Street, Goodbye Everybody! Now we are on the cobbles, I am trying not to spill it — a cup of Irish Coffee from the Bookstore — We pass Butner's, We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year — We Wish You a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We wind around down on Washington and Union Streets to Orange St. singing the while, noisy as ever; We drive into the grounds of the Nantucket Nursing Home (I'm pretty sure they wouldn't have named this Infirmary that if they'd had more experience!) We admired the decorations again, and when we stopped, back of the building, we gave our chaffeur a big hand-clapping, and thank-you's, and to the whole staff a lot of noise and thank-you's for a day we shall never forget — This morning we signed our names to a thank-you note which was to be left on the table in the office thanking the entire staff for our marvelous winter picnic — a Day that will always be a golden and joyous memory!

Away in a manger in the little town of Bethlehem, in the silence of that Holy Night, there came three Kings of Orient, bearing gifts to welcome the new-born Babe, and to worship Him who was born our Savior; And also there came certain Shepherds who brought tidings from a Blessed Angel — tidings of comfort and joy —

Merry Merry Christmas
everywhere, Cheerily it ringeth
Through the Air —
Christmas Bells,
Christmas trees,
Christmas Odors on the breeze,
Merry Merry Christmas,
Everywhere — Cheerily it ringeth on the Air!

Jingle bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way — O What fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!

Jingle Bells, Jingle bells, Jingle All the Way — O What fun it is to ride In a one-horse open Sleigh!!!

Merry Christmas
Peace on Earth
Good Will to Men —

I forgot to tell that we had ice cream sticks and candy which we ate and candy canes for souvenirs.

Good Will To Men

A Patient for The Patients.

A thank you

1974

Dear Editor:

From our first introduction to Nantucket my wife and I found that no place on earth has finer people than this wonderful island.

As a case in point, Monday afternoon, late, we were driving along Cliff Road with the rain pouring down as usual when we met up with a huge puddle in the road. The car plowed through this small lake and the resultant cascade of water caused our faithful car to gurgle to a stop, too wet to continue.

The first car to come along was driven by a pleasant lady who offered assistance. We told her of our predicament and asked her if she would kindly telephone the garage when she arrived home in Madaket. We also asked if she would be willing to deliver some papers to a carrier for his customers. This lady was more than willing and within 30 minutes our ever-faithful, long-suffering garage man arrived and got the car back to life. In the meantime there were four other cars driven by young and middle-aged drivers who stopped and commisserated with us and offered assistance.

With heartfelt thanks we acknowledge our debt to these thoughtful people and say again: ". . . no place on earth has finer people than this wonderful island."

Sincerely,
Irv and Priscilla Stanley

"A real Nantucket spirit
Christmas 1974"

Winter berth -1974-

1834 — 140 Years Ago

The sloop "St. Mary's" left Nantucket December 13 with the molasses which had been salvaged from the wrecked brig "Ganges".

A Town By-Law was published by the Selectmen, to be enforced, forbidding the open carrying of fire and of smoking cigars and tobacco on the streets of Nantucket as dangerous to the inhabitants of the town.

— 0 —

1874 — 100 Years Ago

The Humane Society's house at Surfside was moved inland as a result of the inroads made by surf during recent storms.

— 0 —

1874 — 100 Years Ago

Capt. Joseph W. Winslow and party took possession of the house built by the government at the south side of the island on Tuesday, December 1. The party divided in watches, one of which was to constitute a beach patrol during the nights of the coming winter to render assistance to victims of shipwrecks.

1949 — 25 Years Ago

The New Bedford, Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority announced plans to modernize and repair the steamer "Nantucket" to resemble steamer "New Bedford". The plans were to accommodate more freight space and automobiles.

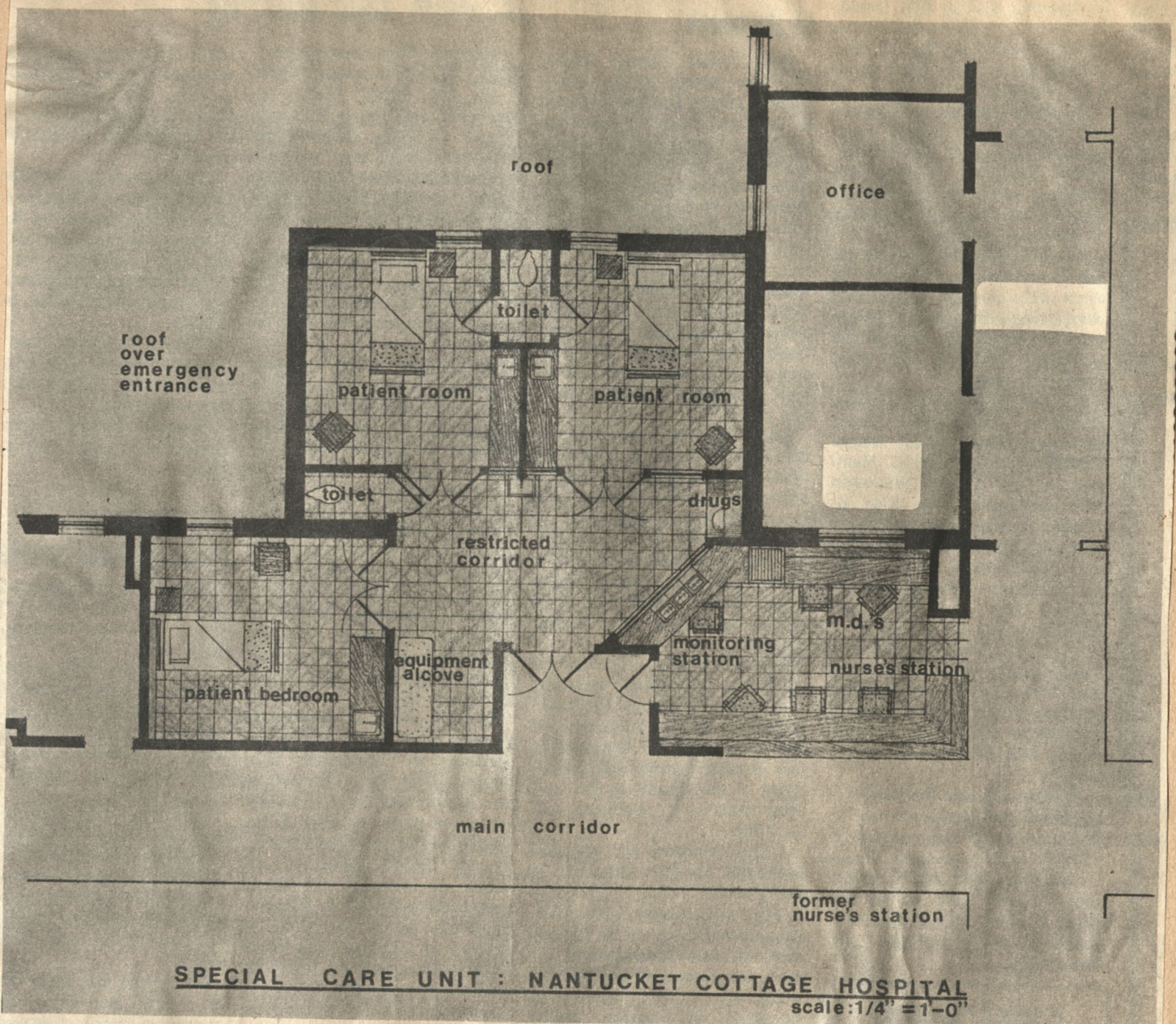
The old brick office on Main Street, built by William Rotch and now owned by members of the Pacific Room and occupied by them and the Customs House, had had a walk put on it for a look-out, a sort of crow's nest, where the old sea-dogs "can lay back at their ease".

1835 – 140 Years Ago

Jared Gardner offered for sale the Mill, called the "Eastern Grain Mill". (This was only one of many times that Mr. Gardner offered the mill for sale, before it was finally purchased in 1855 by George Enos. Mr. Gardner had purchased the Mill in 1828 in deplorable condition and had restored it so that it once again ground corn. This eastern grain Mill" is our Old Mill today).

The first annual meeting of the Nantucket Atheneum was to be held January 5.

Hospital to add Special Care Unit before summer —19



SPECIAL CARE UNIT : NANTUCKET COTTAGE HOSPITAL
scale: 1/4" = 1'-0"

The Department of Public Health, at a recent meeting, acted favorably upon an application by the Nantucket cottage Hospital to construct-renovate existing areas of the Hospital to allow for an addition which will serve as a four bed post operative recovery-special care unit at an estimated capital expenditure of $135,000.

..In granting this determination of need, the Public Health Council determined that there is a demonstrated need for a unit of this nature and the operation of such a unit will promote quality patient management. In discussing this project with Paul I. McNamara, Hospital Administrator, he stated, "The construction proposed is designed to meet the need for the direct observation and care of acutely ill patients.

..The unit will be the responsibility of a committee composed of the following:

..1. Earle B. Mahoney M.D. · Chairman
Director of Surgical Services
..2. Paul B. Cassaday, M.D.
Director of Medical Services
..3. David B. Voorhees, M.D.
Director of Emergency Services

..1. Suspected or actu myocardial infarction.
..2. Patients requiring respirato upport.
..3. Patients having had majo trauma including those with hea

1. Pauline A. Black, R.N.
Director of Nursing Services

..The criteria for admission will be critically ill patients who require constant supervision and will include:

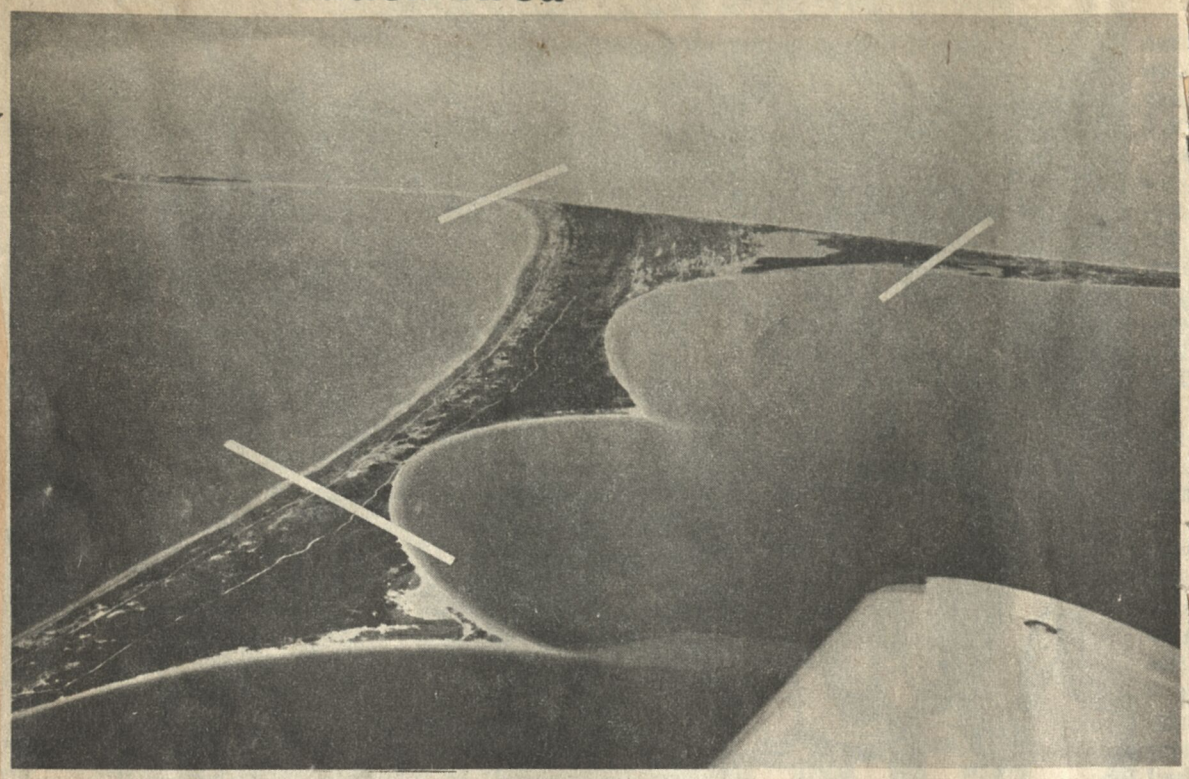
injuries.
..Postoperative care of patients having had major surgical procedures.
..5. Miscellaneous patients who may require special care including medical, surgical and gynecologic problems.

The unit will also be used as a surgical recovery room for patients having general or spinal anesthesia. The estimated cost of the project, McNamara stated, if broken down as follows; construction $100,000 and equipment $35,000. Architects selected is the Firm of Tallman, Drake and Gury, of New Bedford, Massachusetts. The Medical Staff presently working the Medical division of American Optical coroporation, selecting and planning the design for the electronic Patient Monitoring System. It is planned that the unit will be operational in early June 1975.

The blue and white "H" signs, showing the way to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital from all sections of the town, were the gift of Nantucket Rotary Club to the island.

Land at Coskata and Coatue given for new Conservation Area

Dec. 1974



The aerial photo above, taken from 2000 feet, shows the land recently donated to the Massachusetts Trustees of Reservations by Mrs. Allen Backus and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sziklas. White lines indicate the approximate land boundaries of the 810-acre tract. Great Point and the Galls, top, abut the Refuge on the north, and Nantucket Conservation Foundation land abuts the Refuge on the southwest at Bass Point, lower left center. The Haulover is just to the right of the southeast boundary, upper right, and Coskata Woods and Pond are left of it. Wauwinet is just out of the picture to the right, and Pocomo Point is directly beneath the airplane.

More than 800 acres of sand dunes, salt marsh and upland at Coskata and Upper Coatue, including some five miles of shoreline, will be preserved in perpetuity as a conservation area.

The property, which includes Coskata, Coskata Pond and a portion of Coatue, will be known as Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge.

Owned by Mrs. J. Allen Backus, Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Sziklas, it was given in December, 1974, to The Trustees of Reservations of Massachusetts, a charitable corporation and one of the country's oldest land-owning conservation organizations.

March 21 — Death of Lincoln J. Ceely, age 84, one of the island's most remarkable cabinet makers and craftsmen. He was noted for his reverse paintings on glass and also as the originator of the "Sailor Boy" weathervanes.

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1955 — 20 Years Ago

Airport Manager Jean Adams Cook (Shaw), after serving 9½ years, resigned, to be effective February 14. Thomas Gibson, assistant manager, was appointed to take over.

"Aunt Tilly" receives Boston Cane

Mrs. Maria O. "Aunt Tilly" Coffin was presented with the Boston Post Cane last Thursday emblematic of being the oldest island resident. The presentation was made by Robert G. Haley, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. With her is Albert F. Egan, a close friend and relative. Aunt Tilly is 96 and a patient at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital. The previous cane holder was the late Miss Josephine Congdon.

Aunt of Helen Powell

Enterprising snowman-builders constructed this frosty hitchhiker at the 'Sconset bus stop in the wake of last week's heavy snowfall. 1975

Wrecked Dragger taken to Fairhaven for scrap

Wreck of the dragger "Algarve II" being towed to Fairhaven in slings last Friday afternoon by the tug "Wrestler", assisted by the smaller yard tug "Dock Builder". Photo taken from upper deck of M.V. "Nantucket".

Photo by S. J. Turner

The wreck of the 60-foot dgagger "Algarve II" was lifted off of Nantucket Bar last Thursday by Fairhaven Marine Co., and was towed away the following day. The Fairhaven salvage and construction firm sent down a fleet of three vessels, comprised of the tugs "Wrestler" and "Dock Builder" and a lighter equipped with a massive A-frame and a mobile crane on deck, all under the command of salvagemaster Jeff Linberg. Lifting capacity of the equipment was 125 tons, and estimated weight of the wreck was 100 tons as she lay.

Thursday the Fairhaven Marine crews passed slings around the ends of the wreck, lifted her clear of the bottom and brought her in to the end of Straight Wharf last that afternoon, where they tied up for the night. Friday morning a third sling was passed around the hull amidships to distribute the strain on the hull better, and shortly after noon the tow left for Vineyard Haven, where they tied up for the weekend. Monday morning the tow was taken on to the company's yard in Fairhaven.

The "Algarve II" will be stripped of her gear and fittings, such as her winch, gallus frames and her Caterpillar-343 diesel, and then broken up.

1900 — 75 Years Ago

The lobster catch at Nantucket during the year 1899 was reported as follows: 376 traps, 5,627 large lobsters; 204 egg-bearing lobsters liberated.

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1925 — 50 Years Ago

On January 3rd the Town did away with the "Committee of Ten" and adopted a By-Law with a provision made for an advisory committee. The latter were to receive no pay. An amendment was passed to the effect that "No member of the Finance Committee shall be a town or county officer, or directly interested in the town appropriations."

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1835 — 140 Years Ago

Gorham Macy & Son advertised the following: "Found by a Colored boy a small bunch of respectable looking keys, which the owner is requested to call and receive, and pay the boy a shilling."

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Political Calendar for 1975

Feb. 10, 18, 24, 1975 Registration certification of Nomination Papers of Candidates

February 24, 1974, 4:00 P.M. Last day and hour to file Nomination Papers of Candidates with Registrars of Voters

March 3, 1975, 4:00 P.M. Last day and hour to file Nomination Papers with Town Clerk

March 4, 1975, 4:00 P.M. Last day and hour to file objections to or withdrawals of Nomination Papers of Candidates

March 8, 10, 11, 1975 REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Sat., March 8, 1975 12 noon to 10 P.M.
Mon., March 10, 1975 10 - 12 A.M., 2 - 4 P.M.
Tues., March 11, 1975 9 A.M. to 10 P.M. Final Registration.

March 24, 1975 Last day to Post Call for Town Election.

March 27, 1975 Last day to Post Specimen Ballots

March 31, 1975 TOWN ELECTION.

OFFICES TO BE FILLED

1 Moderator	for 1 year
2 Selectmen	for 3 years
1 Treasurer	for 1 year
1 Collector of Taxes	for 1 year
1 Assessor	for 3 years
1 Water Commissioner	for 3 years
2 School Committee	for 3 years
1 Planning Board	for 5 years
1 Historic Districts Commission	for 5 years
1 Housing Authority	for 5 years

Number of signatures on Nomination Papers — 20

Robert G. Haley
Esther U. Gibbs
Charles J. Gardner
Mike Todd, Jr.
Bertrand F. Johnston

1t

15

Lightkeepers' Flying Santa makes Nantucket, Portland; weather cancels rest of trip

Photo by Fred Clow

Last Sunday morning famed Flying Santa Edward Rowe Snow, who for 38 years has dropped Christmas presents to Coast Guard stations and lighthouses along the New England coast, was forced to abandoned the bulk of his route because of weather. Accompanied by his wife, Anna Merle Snow, and UPI free-lance photographer Frederick Clow, pilot Snow took off from Norwood Airport in his Piper Aztec at 8:45 Sunday morning headed for Nantucket, where the weather was good. Landing here, he presented gifts to Nantucket Coast Guard children (see accompanying photo). Leaving Nantucket, he was to fly over Cuttyhunk, then turn north to pass over approximately 30 lighthouses and drop small parcels from the plane, going as far as Rockland, Maine. However, low ceilings and poor visibilities forced him to fly on instruments or above the clouds until he reached Portland, where he landed under a 600 foot ceiling with snow, and turned over his cargo of gifts to Coast Guard personnel for delivery by car. Portland had four inches of snow already on the ground, and it was snowing heavily as the Flying Santa took off on his return home to Norwood, having suffered his first cancellation in 38 years.

LOOKING BACKWARD

Compiled by Merle Orleans

1975

1835 — 140 Years Ago

From The Inquirer: "At the recent fire in Spring Street, a covy of pigeons was observed hovering over the flames at a great hight, presenting a beautiful appearance, resembling that of gold; caused by the reflection of the light below. For several minutes they were seen darting in every direction, as if at a loss where to wend their passage. At last they were noticed to follow the propensity ascribed to birds by naturalists, and plunged one by one into the flames, where they perished." (Note: spelling of words and punctuation in the above are as in the original item.)

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

The annual meeting of the Nantucket and Cape Cod Steamboat Co. was held at the Atheneum. The financial accounts showed the company to be "healthful, upwards of seven thousand dollars being in the treasury." Since the steamer "Island Home" needed a new boiler, it was voted the balance be so used.

The Island was still "froze up". The ice about the boat at the Wharf was 15 inches thick. Frost in the ground went to a depth of 42 inches. Some islanders were suggesting a telegraph cable to the mainland among other improvements.

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1900 — 75 Years Ago

The worst storm of the winter took place February 17-18. Sleighing was good for the first time this winter, with the State Road the best place for races, as there were no drifts.

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In old England, it was the custom of the ruler to wash the feet of several beggars on Maundy Thursday. Queen Elizabeth I, however, would only do this if they had first been washed by her servants in scented water.

Recalls Orange St. sledding in winter of '96

Dear Editor:

In your last week's paper I saw where the young people were sliding on Orange Street hill into Main Street.

This brought memories of a sled I had on the same hill and Main Street about 1896 when I was 8 years old.

My brother, 10 years older, took me from our home on Liberty St. to the hill where we both rode down on a double runner.

Of course streets were not ploughed then as there were no autos.

Given a running start by the last person on we went flying down the frozen hill with 6 aboard, around the corner at Main St. all the way to the Captains building and almost to the then railroad crossing.

A double runner consisted of two sleds separated by a 12 inch plank long enough for five or six people. This had strips on the sides to hold on to and for feet. The front sled was loose on a shaft and was steered by the head person on the sled.

My brother graduated from the Coffin School that year, probably one of the last if not the last class to graduate.

Yours truly,
Grover C. Coffin
19 Ashland Street
Taunton, Mass. 02780

New protective service for lone residents

A new protective service for persons living alone, or in circumstances making such a service helpful, will start March 1, sponsored by the Nantucket Council on Aging's Center for Elder Affairs. Called "Care-ring" it is a daily telephone call made regularly at a specific time, chosen by the person called, to relieve that person of the fear that a fall or sudden illness would not be discovered in time.

Application for this service, which is free of charge, may be made by calling Mrs. Eleanor Lucas at the Center (228-4647). Nantucketers 60 and over are eligible. Further information may be obtained by telephoning the Center.

→ NB
The "Grover Coffin came to call at 25 Pearl St Beverly & we became good "Coffin" friends.

Four laughing youngsters on, or mostly on, a two-place sled, hurtle downhill in a cloud of snow, clearly "having a ball". 1975

Two happy sledders careen downhill at Dead Horse Valley on nothing more than a plastic bag and their own high spirits. 1975

Purpose and facilities of The Homestead explained

In answer to questions about The Homestead at 115 Main Street, the board of directors this week released a full explanation of the purpose, facilities and benefits for the elderly. Anyone who has further questions may call the administrator Mrs. Madge V. Warren at 228-1135 or the president of the corporation Mrs. Harriet Backus at 228-0175.

The Homestead was organized for the purpose of furnishing a good and comfortable home for aged men and women, who upon payment of a moderate sum of money, might be relieved of the burden of housekeeping and the loneliness which so often embitters declining years. Our present daily rate is $16.00. However anyone who cannot pay this amount is judged on an individual basis and a rate set to meet their need. We are a non profit organization and are here to lend a helping hand whenever possible.

The Homestead is not a nursing home. We are licensed as a guest house providing board and room for our guests. Special attention is given to diets. Our meals are home cooked and served in our lovely dining room in a leisurely fashion. There is a bell in every room and a girl on duty twenty four hours a day in case of any emergency. The Town Nurse comes to take care of baths and the such for those who need the care. All persons coming to the home must be ambulatory and capable of taking care of their own medications.

We are willing to take people living with their families on a short term basis so the family can go off on a vacation. Obviously there are many aged person living on Nantucket at the present time who would be happy living in our home if they knew more about it, and could be encouraged to make the change. We have rooms available so if you are interested or if you know anyone who could benefit from our home please contact either our administrator Madge Warren at 228-1135 or our president Mrs. Harriet Backus at 228-0175.

Members of the Nantucket High School Senior Class boarding an Air New England DC-3 last Thursday afternoon on the first leg of their 4000-mile journey to Switzerland. 1975

1835 — 140 Years Ago

The harbor was closed with ice and had been for nearly a week.

"The Journal du Havre announces that by a Royal Ordonnance dated the 1st Jan. The King has created Capt. Baxter (formerly of Nantucket) the commander of a whaler, a Knight of the Legion of Honor, in testimony of his Majesty's satisfaction at the efforts made by Capt. Baxter to promote the French Whale Fishery."

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1835 — 140 Years Ago

The ship "Emily Taylor" went aground on Great Rip Shoal. Among cargo lost were 190 boxes of camphor. Camphor, not damageable by water, would float and generous rewards were offered for the return of the boxes to the Collector of Customs in New Bedford.

The ship "Reaper", Swain, arrived on the 18th at Edgartown with 2200 bbls. sperm oil for Jared Coffin.

Town Meeting adopted a report from the Selectmen, partially as follows: "Granted no license the past year for sale of spirituous liquors because they have not believed that the public good has required such an indiscriminate sale. . .it is a great evil. . .They have seen its effects. .on individuals and families. . .The expenses of the Town are increased by intemperance. . .The Selectmen would gladly license a House provided one could be established, with reference to the public good." 30 persons were named to the Town's Temperance Committee.

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

On February 26 the steamer "Island Home" got out around Brant Point for the first time since the 6th of the month. Volunteers succeeded in cutting a canal from Brant Point to the dock. After getting out the steamer was wedged in at Woods Hole dock by the ice and didn't get back until the next day. She then brought in 18 days' mails — the largest ever since February of 1857. She had 33 mail bags and 28 passengers.

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1899 — 75 Years Ago

Miss Grace Brown Gardner, teacher of the 'Sconset school, left town "on her wheel" Sunday afternoon. A heavy gale and snow squalls prevailed, with the breeze favorable. She made the trip without a mishap, pushed along by the gale at a rate that was "startling".

Millie Jewett received the o.k. last week from the Coast Guard and Weather Bureau, to fly small craft warnings and gale signals in the daytime, at her place on Hither Creek, Madaquet. This should be a help to the small boat fishermen working at the west end. Mar. 1975

Nantucket u

Nantucket as it appeared last Friday afternoon, Valentine's Day, looking north-northeast from 4500 feet. The houses of Surfside are along the shore at lower right, above the breaking seas on Point o' Breakers. The checkerboard of the sewer beds are at lower center, with Miacomet Pond to the left stretching directly away from the camera. Miacomet Golf Course can just be distinguished below the patch of woods at extreme left. The woods closest to town at left center are those adjacent to the High School. At top left can be seen Monomoy Point, Chatham Harbor and the Cape shore at Harwich.

Last vestige of Winter

Last Friday's frigid winds created a fringe of icy meringue along the shore of the North Head of Long Pond. March 28 1975

...Shop, most recently at 50 Main, is returning to its former location at 13 Petticoat Row, well known to old Nantucketers when Miss Cora Stevens had her shop there. Florence Hardy will be in charge.

The Flower Shop will continue to carry fresh-cut flowers and arrangements, but the new feature will be "The Greenery", displaying a large variety of house plants, large and small, with suitable containers of pottery and baskets. The Studio Shop will have fine stationery, notes and party invites, bridge cards and adult games, tole trays and wastebaskets, Colonial candles, gifts and postcards.

At 9 Petticoat Row, a brand new shop is opening, "P.S. II", managed by Penny and Janice Straker. They are featuring 100 percent knitting wools from around the world — alpaca from Peru, mohair from France, Naushon raw wool, and Candide from Canada. A specialty will be their own original knitting patterns, with free knitting help and lessons. They will also have a wide range of fancy buttons, English Wellington boots, and Mexican knotted shawls and crocheted coats.

"Petticoat Row" was first called by that name right after the Civil War, because of the number of women who ran the shops, and Edouard Stackpole says that this tradition has continued to the present day. Mr. Stackpole adds that the name was probably taken from London's "Petticoat Lane". Nantucket's architectural historian, Lancaster, has been researching this area, and contributes the following interesting information:

"In 1846 the Great Fire destroyed all the buildings on the east side of Centre, from Main to India. On Centre Street, the handsome complex was first erected for Benjamin F. Rinewly and James Athearn was first occupied in mid-December by John P. Swain's grocery. By Spring included N. & S. other tenants (groceries), Henry A. K. Sprague (groceries), Charleman Crocker medieu (confections & L'Hommedieu cream), Brown & Sons and ice and A. M. Macy (boots and shoes) referred to as the Centre Block, the building soon became Centre Street Sherburne Hall, and became L'Hommedieu to call his prompting parlour the Sherburne Sarce cream great room upstairs in the room. The pavillion was used for a short while as S.A.C. Flu's Dancing School, but it soon became and has remained a school, but the I.O.O.F. Lodge Hall. The building is owned by the Lodge. Later, because of the prejudice and consequent disinclination of female shopkeepers to be at street level, this became known as "Petticoat Row".

New Shops on Petticoat Row

Next Monday, March 17 (St. Patrick's Day) will see the opening of two new shops on Nantucket's famous "Petticoat Row" — Centre Street from Main to India.

The Flower Shop recently

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

William P. Hiller was appointed Collector of Customs, replacing Capt. James Codd, deceased. Mr. Hiller had been in the Union Army and had lost a leg at the first battle of Deep Bottom, within 8 miles of Richmond.

Billy Clark reported March 17 that from the Tower he could see Oak Bluffs and the church spires on the Cape.

The granite posts and curbing for the base of the Soldiers' Monument arrived.

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1900 — 75 Years Ago

The Town's committee on bicycle paths is considering a plan to continue the Surfside path along the bluff to the hotel, thence through Lover's Lane across to the State Road.

"The trustees of the Methodist Church are arranging to formally offer the church property for sale."

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1925 — 50 Years Ago

Walter H. Burgess was appointed the new Superintendent of Streets.

Town Meeting lasted 12 minutes and accepted the Finance Committee's Report in its entirety. Appropriations totalled $195,410.85, the largest in history.

On March 9 Rowland Kenyon, government telephone man, and Adolph Rhodin, keeper of Coskata Station, drove a Ford down to the end of Coatue Point. They were back in town before dark.

Government plans to make test drilling on Nantucket; results could answer many questions

The Board of Selectmen was in receipt of a letter yesterday from Dr. David W. Folger of the Office of Marine Geology, U.S. Geological Survey Division, Department of the Interior, at Woods Hole, concerning plans to make a test drilling at Nantucket for appraisal of water resources and to make a geological study of the formation of the island and the bedrock beneath it.

The letter follows:

Dear Mr. Small:

As part of the Water Resource Division's work plan for the appraisal of water resources on Nantucket Island, provision was made for drilling a test hole in the central part of the island to an estimated depth of four hundred (400) feet. Subsequent to the preparation of the work plan the Office of Marine Geology (Branch of Atlantic-Gulf of Mexico Geology, Woods Hole, Mass.) suggested that much information concerning the geologic foundation of Nantucket and the continental shelf could be obtained by deepening the hole to 2000 feet.

The purpose of the drilling is to acquire sound hydrologic and geologic information in an area where the hydrology and geology are presently only inferred by indirect methods. The specific objectives of the Water Resources Division are:

1. To obtain lithologic description of the aquifer in the thickest part of the fresh water saturated zone and in the brackish water transition zone at the base of the fresh water lens. Lithology is required to identify aquifer boundaries and quantify aquifer hydraulic properties such as transmissivity, hydraulic conductivity, anisotropic ratio of vertical to horizontal hydraulic conductivity and storage coefficient.

2. To locate and describe the transition zone between fresh water and salt water.

3. To determine vertical distribution of head within the aquifer in the fresh water lens and zone of transition.

4. To monitor fluctuations in the vertical distribution of head and salinity within the quifer. To provide information useful to safeguarding fresh water resources.

Independents gaining

According to a notice posted by Clark Coffin in the Town Clerk's office the Independents are gaining ground and the Republicans and Democrats are losing ground.

The latest voting lists show that here are a total of 3231 registered voters and of this number 1945 are Independents; 906 are Republicans and 380 are Democrats. 1975

Easter - March 30-1975

Photo by Larry Cronin

Thumper, securely attached to his owner Philip Marks III, views from his own vantage point the strollers at Sunday's Easter Arts Festival on Main Street. MARCH 30, 1975

Easter Sunday was a disappointment, weather-wise. It was cold, windy, rainy and generally miserable. The skies cleared temporarily mid-afternoon as the storm center passed over the island. The barometer dropped to a low of 29.25 and .55 inches of rain fell on Nantucket during the storm.

The Easter egg rolling for the youngsters was held indoors Sunday afternoon. The "Easter walk", planned for family participation on Main Street with the street closed to traffic, was not entirely rained out, as the latter part of the afternoon was sufficiently clear to allow strollers to view the window displays made by school youngsters of all ages. Buttner's windows were particularly interesting, with enormous crayon drawings of ecological scenes to attract attention. The windows at the Hub had small peep-show boxes made by kindergarteners, showing bunnies and chickens, etc. Other decorations were done by the "Wee Whalers" and the boys and girls of the elementary grades. Reggie Levine's gallery was a center of attraction for the exhibition of some of the artistry of the older youngsters.

Steamer Nobska's Golden Anniversary

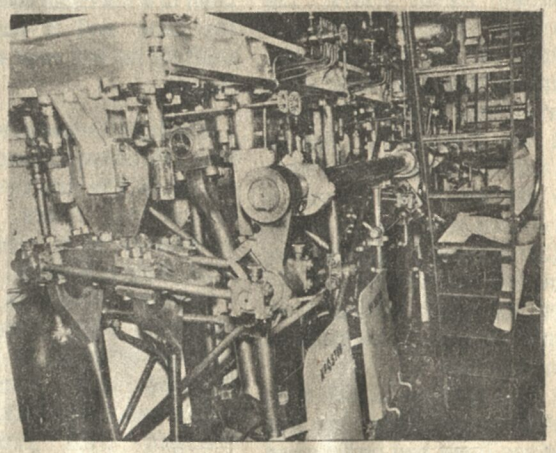
Crossing the Bar

Steamer Nobska approaches Nantucket Bar on a noon trip in September, 1973, the last month of her service.

"There she is!"

The trip to Nantucket has begun, for countless thousands of people, with the first sight of the Nobska loading cars at Woods Hole dock.

Full speed ahead!



Chief Engineer Foster opens the throttle and the massive triple-expansion steam engine swishes smoothly into motion.

Night boat docking

Nobska backs around the corner of the wharf on a spring line, ending another day's work for her crew and a happy trip to Nantucket for her passengers.

Fifty years ago this coming Monday, March 24, 1925, the steamer Nobska was launched at the Bath Iron Works in Maine. It was 12:40 in the afternoon when she slipped down the ways, stern first with a full head of steam, allowing her own whistle to join in the festivities of the launching. Her construction by the master craftsman of Bath was 100 percent complete, a procedure no longer practiced in modern day shipbuilding. She was tall and trim and it was a glorious entry she made.

And she was a proud ship coming in as she rounded Brant Point at 3:00 P.M. on April 9. An unpaved Steamboat Wharf was crowded with horses and buggies, and men, women and children watched as James Oscar Sandsbury secured her on the East side of the wharf. It wouldn't be for another five years that the steamers would moor on the North side used by the present day ferries. Killen's Ice House whistle (taken from the sidewheeler Island Home) joined in a chorus of horns, bells and cheers resounding on the waterfront in salute to the spotless black and white steamer.

Easy Street was little more than a path then. Showing at Dreamland Theatre that day was a film called "Revelation" with one Viola Dana and the theatre's ad emphasized m-o-v-i-n-g p-i-c-t-u-r-e-s; a new ice cream parlor was opening on Main Street called The Modern and across the street Moore and Terry were selling bacon for 49 cents a pound. That same month the citizenry voted to appropriate $195,000 at a Town Meeting that lasted 12 minutes.

It was another era then and looking at the Nobska today, resting at the same wharf she has known all these decades, one can be easily lured into thinking about the changes and events that have transpired since that day in 1925; the passing of 8 Presidents, the Depression, the Second World War and the exploration of Space.

The Nobska herself has seen and undergone many changes: she has sailed under two names (her name was changed to Nantucket in 1927 and back to Nobska in 1956) for four different owners; originally equipped with no means of communication, she progressed to wireless, later to radio telephone; she was converted from coal to oil in 1940; her navigational equipment graduated from whistle and compass to radar; in 1950 she was extensively remodeled. Her record for bucking ice and crossing in hurricane force winds is rivaled only by the Island Home. She has been in collision, run aground, caught fire, been lost in the fog, gone on rescue missions and rammed her berths in unwieldly weather with such force as to temporarily curtail their use. And all this without having laid claim to one human life.

When Richard P. Faria took her on her last scheduled run from Nantucket on September 18, 1973, steam blew from her whistle with a power that screamed, she wailed all the way out of the harbor and when she was finished the organ tone was reduced to a whimper. Captain Faria held the whistle cord in his hand but she had given her all; there was no more pressure; she was tired, worn out. For those who witnessed it, the imagery was clear. Ernest Viera heard it at his home way out on Lovers Lane; Seaman John Swenson was not ashamed to admit it brought mist to his eyes; Merle Orleans called it the saddest sound she ever heard. It was a final farewell to the Island she had served longer than any of her sisters before her.

Orange Street, at the rise of the hill, in 1875
The old Furniture Warehouse was removed over three decades ago, but the houses still remain, although the third house (former Sherburne House) was moved back from the street line in this century.

JANUARY, 1975

Quidnet-Squam Association incorporated

The incorporation of the Quidnet-Squam Association has been completed. The Association was organized last October with residents of the area present.

H. D. Beal was elected temporary president and acting secretary. R. B. Eger was elected treasurer and W. F. Holmes, clerk, both on a temporary basis. Present at the organizational meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Philip G. Forsythe, Dr. and Mrs. Reginald F. Seidel, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Parker, J. S. Beale, Ripley W. Nelson, W. F. Holmes and Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Beale.

A meeting will be held this coming summer. All property owners in the area will be notified beforehand of the date and location of the meeting. Oct, 1974

Rising Over The House Tops
The South Tower Dominates An Island Town

The old Portuguese Bell in the South Tower

May 1975

Nantucket's Town Clock and the Unitarian Church

by Nancy Ayotte

"Why doesn't the Town Clock strike 52 anymore?" The question recoiled throughout the hall of the last Town Meeting. The answer only begins to scratch the surface of the long history of the Second Congregational Church and Town Clock belfry. It is an old Nantucket history of Starbucks and Swains and Folgers whose names are preserved on ancient framed parchment and hung in the church forever reserving their own Sunday morning pews.

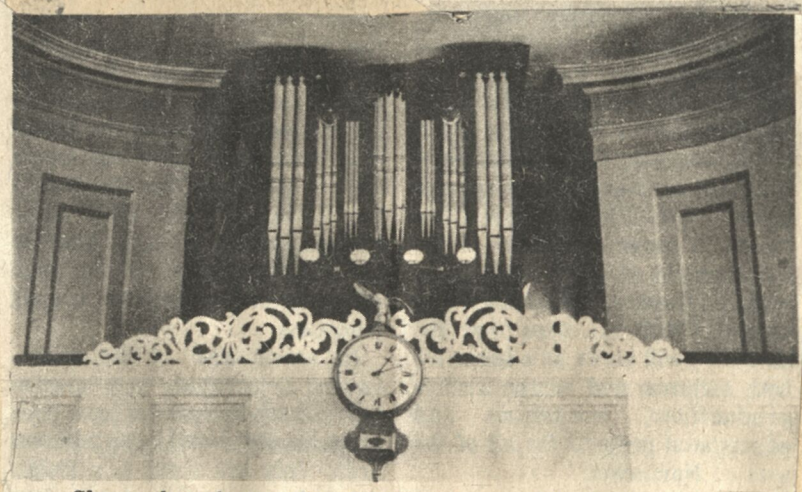
On this stormy early April morning one can almost hear the rustling skirts of a generation of Nantucket women now long past. It is 1809 and Rev. Seth Freeman Swift is greeting his parishioners in this brand new church on Orange Street hill. His high white collar stands stiffly under his chin. He is a proud man, proud of this new building and proud of his appointment as first and as yet unordained pastor of this recently formed tributary of Christian worshippers. Only last year its founders had been members of the First Congregational Church which meets even now in the Old North Vestry. But it was the distance between the two sites rather than any real doctrinal divergence or revolt against strictness which initiated the decision to construct this new meeting house. Rev. "Seth" climbs to his pulpit and stares over his tiny round glasses at his congregation. The room with its high domed ceiling is so beautifully atuned to sound that one can hear a pin drop in the rear of the church and certainly the muffled snores of the tired old gentleman who is nudged awake as the stately pastor peers down.

Finally after a long pause, Rev. "Seth" clears his throat and begins the first of many sermons which are to span his 23 years as pastor. He begins in subdued tones requiring his parishioners to strain forward to hear his whisperings, but before he is through his voice rings loud and long throughout the halls of the new church building.

Perhaps that's how it was on that Sunday morning in November 1809. Some say in the quiet moments they can hear him still pacing the soft carpeted floors as he struggles to write his Sunday morning sermons.

But many historical events are documented during the term of Rev. Seth Swift. The Portuguese bell purchased in Lisbon by Capt. Charles Clasby was placed in the tower in 1815. It was a prize possession to the townfolk and is said to sound on "B". The weight of the great bell swinging to and fro in a tower not designed for such abuse soon weakened the structure and it had to be replaced by 1830. James Austin then coppered the dome.

Looking down the aisle of the Second Congregational Church, one can almost hear the rustling skirts of a generation of Nantucket women long since passed The high domed ceiling makes the room beautifully atuned to sound.



Shown above is a portion of the upper case of the Unitarian Church Organ. It was built specifically for the church in 1831 and has the unique distinction of being the only church organ still in existence which can be attributable to the great craftsman, William Goodrich. The organ is valued not only as a musical instrument unsurpassed in tone and quality of workmanship, but also as a great historical work of art.

The first Town Clock was placed in the tower in 1823. It was made by Samuel Jenks.

In this reference, the January 1965 issue of Historic Nantucket relates the following:

"A short time after (the clock was installed), the following appeared in the local paper: "August 5, 1823. Town Clock. The publick are hereby informed why this instrument is so frequently out of order, that there may be no blame attached to the workmanship of the machinery, or to its being stopped from striking during the nights or to the carelessness of the superintendent.

"The cause is this: Boys have too free access to the tower and have frequently entangled the hands at the dials. The proprietors of the Meeting House are determined there shall be no more public keys to the tower for the future.

"Those persons therefore who wish to view the clock machinery are informed that an opportunity occurs every Saturday afternoon after 4 o'clock at which time it is wound up."

R.W. Jenks, Supt."

The present Town Clock was installed in 1881, the same year that the dome was first gold-leafed, and the mechanism was run by weights until 1957 when it was electricified. The clock and bell were coordinated so that traditionally the bell sounded 52 times at 7 a.m., 12 noon, and 9 p.m. But for some reason of late it hasn't been performing this familiar ring.

The answer lies in more recent times. Today the church is led by Rev. "Ted" Anderson, a young man whose booming voice fills the great span of the Meeting House on every Sunday morning.But on a particularly stormy morning last summer, Rev. Anderson's sermon unleashed such a fury in the heavens that a bolt of lightning struck the Town Clock and fused together part of the mechanism. And so today, the bell will sound the hour but is not so inclined as to strike the curfew any longer until indeed new parts can be secured.

Conservation Commission beautifies Crab Bridge

The Crab Bridge on Madaket Road, always a point of interest to Nantucketers and visitors alike, recently underwent a beauty treatment, thanks to the decicated efforts of the Conservation Commission Committee headed by Gilbert Burchell. Work is still in the completion stages and it will take some time for the new plantings to gain in strength and become part of the natural environment.

The parking area has been freshly paved with shells, rustic benches have been installed, a new ramp is in the process of constructuon and there have been plantings of Rugosa rose, pine trees, Russian olive and of other species indigenous to the Island. The design for the work was created by Conservation Commission member Gilbert Burchell who also directed the entire program.

Assistance, in the form of labor, contribution of materials as well as of monies, was by Nancy Chase, Norman Minstrell, Emmanuel Roberts, Charles Fisher, James Garnett, Edward Medeiros, Donald MacDonald, Esther Gibbs and Gilbert Waine. "Volunteer dedicated effort by members of the community is the greatest strength a community can have," stated Bernard Grossman, Commision Chairman. "We sincerely hope that this is the first of ma beautification projects which v take place on lands under cont of the Conservation Commissi In the future, we will plan furt advance publicity of work to done and trust that there will many more public-spirited citiz who will wish to assist the C mission in its efforts

Nantucket Lightship is offered to Lifesaving Museum

The Nantucket lightship, which was recently replaced on station by a relief vessel, has been declared "excess property" by the U.S. General Services Administration and has been offered to the Nantucket Lifesaving Museum. The offer is contingent upon a means being found of financing the vessel's maintenance, and the directors of the Museum are now considering the practicability of bringing the ship to Nantucket.

The light vessel was built in 1936 by Pusey and Jones of Wilmington, Delaware, who also built the famed island sidewheeler Gay Head in 1891. She is large as lightships go, 149 feet long, 31 feet in beam, drawing 13 ft. 6 inches, with a load displacement of 897 tons. She has a single 900-h.p. diesel which will drive the full-bodied hull at nine knots.

It is understood that the Lifesaving Museum has until June 2nd to decide if berthing the lightship here is practical, and to find a means of financing her upkeep. After that the vessel will probably be offered to other agencies, then put on the general market as "surplus", and finally, all else failing, sold to the ship-breakers for scrap.

Folger's Marsh closed to public for marine life study

The Board of Selectmen last night approved the request of Dr. Wesley N. Tiffney, director of the U. of Mass. Nantucket Field Station, to close off to the public the area off Polpis Road known as Folger's Marsh and Filling Brook for the protection of the marine life observations and experiments the Field Station students are carrying on in that section.

Phil Bartlett waters the seedlings in one of his several greenhouses.

MAY 1 - 1975

Straight Wharf Theatre completely destroyed by fire Saturday night

April 18, 1975

Two alarms sounded for worst fire in years — Little damage to surrounding buildings

The famed old Straight Wharf Theatre was completely destroyed by a fire last Saturday night that not only gutted the theatre but threatened the adjoining Cap'n Tobey's Restaurant and the buildings on Still Dock and Old North Wharf.

At one time the flames were shooting several hundred feet in the air and the burning embers were carried by the wind over the buildings and were dropping into the Easy Street basin and around the M.V. Nobska tied up at Steamboat Wharf.

The firefighters led by Assistant Chiefs George Hamblin and Mitchell Todd have been commended by the townspeople for their successful efforts to keep the blaze confined to the theatre area and from spreading to the other buildings that would have resulted in extensive damage to that part of the waterfront.

Cap'n Tobey's Restaurant suffered an estimated $10,000 worth of damage to the exterior of the building nearest the theatre and to the upper floor. There was also some water damage to this building. It was fortunate that this building was not lost entirely because of its close proximity to the theatre. The bricks on the Artists Association building to the north of the theatre have a white cast from the intense heat they were subjected to.

Assistant Chief Hamblin said it is difficult to set a loss value for the theatre as it was an old structure and was about to undergo extensive renovation work but unofficially it was estimated it could cost $100,000 to rebuild it into a theatre again. The Sherburne Associates, owners of the theatre, carry a blanket insurance policy on all their buildings.

The blaze was first seen by Allen J. Royal and Robert Garrabrant as they were leaving the Nantucket Anglers' Club about 8:30 p.m. Garrabrant telephoned the alarm to the fire station and three pieces of apparatus were sent to the scene. Royal said that when he saw the blaze, the entire building appeared to be afire and smoke and flames were already coming from the roof.

Assistant Chief Hamblin said that when he arrived at the fire he saw that more help would be required and he ordered a second alarm sounded. This brought two more pieces of equipment and the Siasconset engine was brought in to serve as a standby engine at the station. About 45 Nantucket volunteer firemen fought the blaze and men from the Naval Facility and the Coast Guard units also responded to add their services.

The aerial ladder truck was used to good advantage with its fog nozzle at the top of the ladder directed into the center of the blaze. This hose was throwing 500 to 800 gallons of water per minute on the fire. Other hoses were being played on the fire from the ground level and a water curtain was set up to protect the houses and buildings on Still Dock and Old North Wharf. Assistant Chief Hamblin said leaves and other debris in the gutters of these buildings kept starting up and burning from the heat and flames that were gushing from the theatre.

David Worth of the Wannacomet Water Company said 138,000 gallons of water were used to fight the fire. The big pump was put into operation a few minutes after the apparatus arrived on the scene. It is capable of pumping 2,100 gallons per minute. The average pumping was 1,500 gallons per minute although it peaked at 1,700 gallons twice during the fire. The water was pumped directly into the mains.

The fire was under control by 12:30 a.m. and the all out sounded about an hour later. Hamblin said that small areas kept flaring up and the fire apparatus did not leave the scene until about 4 a.m. He said the firemen returned about 7 o'clock and there was one corner still smoldering that had to be hosed down before it was entirely quelled.

All during the night food and hot coffee were being supplied to the firefighters by restaurants and many individuals and the fire department issued a general thank you note to these people.

The final plays were staged at the theatre Friday night and on Saturday the Theatre Workshop group worked there removing the 130 seats, the equipment, costumes and other materials to the Kenneth Taylor Gallery to make the place ready for the planned renovation that was to start on Monday when John Viera and his men were to install a new foundation.

Assistant Chief Hamblin said that a preliminary investigation into the cause of the fire was made Sunday morning by State Police Corporal John F. McGrady and himself. He requested that Detective Lieutenant John Dunn, a State Fire Marshal attached to the District Attorney's office in Barnstable come to Nantucket to endeavor to determine the cause. Corporal McGrady said Lt. Dunn arrived on Wednesday's boat to examine the ruins.

It was stated Wednesday that there was electricity on in the theatre when the workmen left the place late Saturday but that it was shut off in the control booth.

At the height of the fire many persons attending a Degree of Pocahontas affair at Red Men's Hall became alarmed when they looked out the windows and saw the flames billowing in the air and the red embers dropping in the Easy Street basin. About half the crowd grabbed their coats and made a hurried exit believing the fire was headed in the direction of the hall.

The fire is regarded as being the worst to hit the town since the Ryder's Market fire of December, 1962. At that time 134,000 gallons of water were used to extinguish the fire, according to Worth.

Assistant Fire Chief Hamblin stated last night that Lt. Detective Dunn checked out the fire ruins yesterday and listed the cause as "undetermined".

1875 — 100 Years Ago

Baskets being made by Oliver C. Coffin 2nd on board the South Shoal Light-boat were called "fine specimens of workmanship."

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1965 — 10 Years Ago

Sherburne Associates announced plans for the development of the harbor front, an area to include Commercial , Old South and Straight wharves, with a boat basin, shops and studios.

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Mrs. Margaret Grout

Mrs Margaret Grout, widow of the late John W. Grout, of Quaker Road, Nantucket, died on June 10, 1975, at the Courtland Nursing Home in Stamford, Conn., following a long illness.

Mrs. Grout was born May 9, 1896, in Detroit, Mich., the daughter of the late Theodore H. and Lillian Clark Eaton. She was a long-time summer resident of Nantucket, first in Siasconset, and later a year-round resident in Nantucket itself.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Robert Krida, of Darien, Conn., and Mrs. W.P. Tampbke, of Hilton Head, N.C., and one son, John Grout, of La Jolla, Calif. She also leaves 10 grandchildren.

The funeral service will be held at 3 o'clock Friday afternoon, June 13, 1975, at St. Paul's Church in Nantucket, of which she is a member. Interment will be in Prospect Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

1975

A good friend & neighbor.

Historical Assn. seeks for Bicentennial exhibit

1975

In the early spring of this year, the Nantucket Historical Association sent a letter to its more then 2000 members. To quote the letter in part: "The Nantucket Historical Association has voted to put on a loan exhibit of Nantucket Domestic Arts of the 18th century, mid-July to mid-August, 1976, to celebrate the Bicentennial Year."

It has now been decided to locate the exhibit at the Fair Street Museum.

The letter continues: "The purpose of the enclosed questionnaire is to locate the heritage of the 18th century still in existence, thus enabling us to recreate that great period in Nantucket's history."

It is the earnest hope of the working committee that more questionnaires will be returned in the next month. The response has been enthusiastic, but we need more, more, more. The sooner we know what is available to us the better job we can do.

There must be people on the island or off who would like to lend their heirlooms and they may contact Mrs. Harding Greene chairman, Mrs. Alfred Amey or Mrs. Ben Richmond by letter care of the Historical Association.

Next Wednesday, July 9, will be "June Bartlett Day" in Nantucket, commemorating (on his birthday) the memory of that fine gentleman farmer who left us all at the beginning of the summer last year. The June Bartlett Memorial Scholarship Fund is continuing and, as will be seen in another column in this issue of The Inquirer and Mirror, contributions to help keep it going in June's memory will be accepted with much appreciation by the committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Hilts (Beverly Jewett) will celebrate the 15th anniversary of their marriage next Wednesday, July 9.

1975

Surfside bicycle path will not be constructed in near future

If the State has anything to do with the construction of the bicycle path to Surfside it will take about two more years before the ground work is completed and the path is ready to be built.

1975

Transportation information given older citizens

The Nantucket Council On Aging and the Center for Elder Affairs is now distributing Transportation Information flyers covering all phases of the Council's program for transporting persons age 60 and over. Transportation days are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Riders must telephone the Center for Elder Affairs, 228-4647, by 1 p.m. of the day before the ride is needed. Special priority is given to medical appointments and to shopping needs.

During the month of June the Center for Elder Affairs supplied 221 rides to the older members of the community using the new Center van driven by Albert Fee. Bus passes may be obtained at the Center for Elder Affairs at 4 Darling Street or by phoning the Center at 228-4647.

1975

Congregational Church Fete

A flower basket made Paul Whitten, and dinners for two are among the items to be raffled at the annual Fete held by the First Congregational Church, July 17 from 10:00 to 4:00. Tickets will be sold throughout the day.

Other prizes offered are a collage by Henry Patzel, a painting by John Egle, and a tablecloth embroidered by Mrs. Mary Lamens. The dinners are offered by the Mad Hatter Restaurant and the Jared Coffin House, according to Florence Norton, chairman of the raffle committee for the Fete.

The Fete will feature sales of handmade gifts, food tables, a luncheon, balloons, cotton candy, and games for children. There will also be a white elephant table.

Donations for the rummage sale and white elephant tables should be left at the church during week-day mornings from 9 to 12.

A decoupage basket was won by Mrs. Jos. Lynch of Bridge-water Mass.

Selectmen send letter of thanks to C. G.

1975

Letter of thanks went out on July 29 from the Selectmen's office to the Commanding Officers of two U.S. Coast Guard vessels, BMC Gavaghan of the Block Island and BMC Shield of the Point Judith, for assistance given to the Nantucket crew of the Boston lightship in its journey to the coast of New Jersey last month. Selectmen complimented both commanders on the "extraordinary" manner in which their crews performed all duties in towing the damaged Boston ship to its new port. The Boston lightship was damaged in thick fog by a collision with the Betty Conway which resulted in a jammed rudder which, Selectmen write, "could have stymied a less-than-well-trained towing crew. Everything they did was a credit to the U.S. Coast Guard." The Block Island towed the disabled vessel part of the way, and the Point Judith relieved that ship to continue the journey which ended finally and safely at an anchorage near the Jamestown bridge.

Looking Backward

1835 — 140 Years Ago

The ship "Eagle", Capt. Pease, sailed on July 17 for the Bar, to fit for the South Atlantic. The next day the ship "Mary", Capt. Thomas Coffin, left for the Bar to fit for the Pacific. On the 20th the "Richard Mitchell", Capt. Henry Cleaveland, left for the Pacific, via Fayal, with passengers.

On the 22nd the ship "Rowley", Capt. Barney, arrived from the Pacific with 1100 barrels of sperm oil to Griffin Barney.

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

There were in sight, on May 11, 114 vessels in the Sound. They had been in Vineyard harbor the day before to avoid a storm.

Robert Mooney advertised for sale a farm in Polpis, late the property of Gardner Coffin. It consisted of 25 acres which included 11 acres of superior meadow and a cranberry meadow.

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

"The bath houses are in full blast now, and bathers are quite numerous. Capt. B. R. Burdett is running regular trips with his yacht Dauntless to the Cliff Shore Bathing Rooms."

"The three willow trees which stand in front of the residence of the late David Mitchell on Centre Street are something of curiosities. They were brought here from the island of St. Helena by the late Capt. William Plaskett, who took them from the grave of Napoleon." (One of these willow trees is still growing on Centre Street in 1975, about in front of the law office of Wayne Holmes.)

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1900 — 75 Years Ago

On august 4 the first notable entertainment was held at the 'Sconset Casino with 820 in attendance. The highlight of the evening was the appearance of the venerable actress Mrs. G.H. Gilbert. Other features included a Spanish dance by Miss Agnes Everett and Allen Rowe, a recitation by Mary Galvin, the appearance of Miss Percy Haswell in "Monkey on a Stick" from the Geisha, and "The Parrot". A production of "A Gentle Jury" featured Miss Everett, Miss Haswell, and George Fawcett.

(Miss Haswell and Mr. Fawcett were afterwards married and became the parents of Margaret Georgia Fawcett, now Mrs. Margaret Fawcett Barnes, of Siasconset.)

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1925 — 50 Years Ago

In the early morning hours of Saturday, August 8, more that one half of the Point Breeze Hotel was destroyed by fire. Damage was estimated between $50,000 and $75,000.

A most successful Main Street Fete was held on Thursday, August 13, for the benefit of the Nantucket Cottage Hospital. Austin Strong, noted playwright and actor, was featured with a group of men as "the returning whalemen", being pulled up and down Main Street in the big surf-boat.

1925 — 50 Years Ago

A Special Town Meeting, held July 13, voted to give the village of Siasconset water for domestic and fire purposes legally. Thus was settled a 22 year old controversy. Water Commissioners were to be elected at an election to be held later on.

The "Lillian", which made daily trips to and from Wauwinet, was scheduled to make Sunday excursion trips either to Great Point or Tuckernuck "as conditions warrant".

Flora Street (formerly Rose Jenkins Lane) was hard-surfaced. The cobbles and flagstones were removed prior to the laying of the "concrete". The unevenness of the cobbles made it impracticable to hard-surface over them.

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1835 — 140 Years Ago

Advertisement in The Inquirer read as follows: Maria Mitchell proposes to open a school for Girls, on the first of next month, at the Franklin School House. Reading, Writing, Spelling, Geography. Grammar, History, Natural Philosophy, Arithmetic, Geometry, and Algebra. $3.00 per quarter. None admitted under 6 years of age.

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1875 — 100 Years Ago

The Inquirer and Mirror printed the following item: Some 20 years ago a grove of trees at Coskata was cut down by Philip H. Folger, who needed a place for his flock of sheep. It was noted the "Nature is reclothing the spot again." Oak, beech, ash and various other deciduous trees have started up again.

Nantucket had 2.4 inches of [illegible]

1875 — 100 Years Ago

The question of a railroad in Nantucket was again in the news. It was proposed to have a railroad run over the "Creeks" to Surfside, skirt the shores of the island to Tom Nevers Head, Low Beach, to 'Sconset. It was estimated 9 miles in extent and to cost not over $75,000, including the rolling stock, etc.

This was the season of "squantums", the largest of which was held at Madaket, attended by about 100 people who made the trip from town in the yachts "Lizzie and Helen", "Favorite", "Flor del Mar", "Thorn", and "Dawning Light". Capt. Smalley was not warned ahead of time but came up with a "bake", chowder, etc., to feed them all.

Other squantums were made via wagons and boats to Quidnet, Saul's Hills, Coskata, Muskeget, Tuckernuck and the Head of the Harbor.

1900 — 75 Years Ago

It was noted in The Inquirer and Mirror that, on July 23rd, the government would establish a fixed red light, illuminating the entire horizon, 21 feet above mean high water mark on the beach at Brant Point, on the westerly side of the entrance to Nantucket harbor.

The Nantucket Historical Association at its annual meeting released the information that the purchase of the Historical Building and also of the Old Windmill had been made possible by Miss Caroline L. French, of Boston.

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1925 — 50 Years Ago

The entire population of Quidnet held a community picnic, gathering around three camp fires, atribute to William H. Norcross, the founder of the colony. This was the first gathering held since his death.

Deputy game warden Manasse Dunham on Muskeget estimated that

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1955 — 20 Years Ago

The U.S. Naval Facility at Tom Nevers was officially commissioned on Monday, August 1, at ceremonies held at 2:30 in the afternoon. The construction work was not completed, however, and it was thought the SeaBees would be on the Island through September.

In a 7½ hour period on July 25, CAA Radio's crew of two (Bachman and Betts) made 246 radio contacts, almost all IFR. In addition they filed between 20 and 30 VFR and IFR flight plans, answered about 300 interphone calls and some 60 long distance and local phone calls.

Public invited to Brant Point Ceremony

Mildred Jewett to receive highest Award

Millie Jewett received well-earned honor from Coast Guard

by Karen Walker

Millie Jewett was formally honored with the presentation of the Coast Guard's highest award for meritorious public service Tuesday evening at Brant Point. Over two hundred friends and well-wishers, the crews of both the Loran and rescue Coast Guard stations on Nantucket, five officers from the Woods Hole base and men from the Point Bonita attended the short ceremony in which New England's best-loved "Commander", "Madaket" Millie, was officially recognized for her fifty years of devoted service.

Captain Robert J. Hanson, commander of the Woods Hole Base Coast Guard Station, presented the award and citation to "Madaket" Millie, saying, "She has given unselfishly of herself, her energy and her time to the people of both the Madaket Lifesaving station of years past and the Brant Point Coast Guard. We cannot begin to describe the feelings we have for her. Even those who have never worked directly with her are attached to her; she is a great lady."

Millie, in a short acceptance speech, remarked, "I've been doing this for fifty years, and I'll do it for fifty more, if I can."

Later, in an interview with Channel 3 newsperson Julie Manner, she said, "I've just tried to help people the best way I know how. That's it."

After the band, under the direction of Thomas Proctor, saluted the flag with the national anthem, Commander of the Brant Point Station George Crook escorted Millie to the head of the assembly to begin the ceremonies. He introduced Captain Hanson, who recalled Millie's exploits over the years and certain incidents in which Millie has been invaluable to the Coast Guard in surveying the Ma aket area and in rescue operations off the west end. "She has helped the Island and the Coast Guard grow together, so that each might work with the other. We can never truly thank her enough for her loyalty, help and involvement," he said.

The citation accompanying the award expressed the sentiments of everyone who has come in contact with "Madaket" Millie in the last fifty years. "During this time, you have given. . .of your time in support of the Coast Guard and its missions. You have trained dogs for use in the Police and Armed Forces, dispatched island residents to the scene of marine disasters, been instrumental in locating a crashed observation plane from Otis Air Force Base, checked local boats in and out during the scallop season and advised the Coast Guard of those overdue and many more services and assistance, too lengthy in number to enumerate, to the keepers and men of the old Lifesaving Station at Madaket and later to the men of Brant Point Station. Additionally, in April 1975, you volunteered to display and maintain storm weather warnings from a flag pole on your private property, and were so authorized by the National Weather Service. By your meritorious actions, untiring energy and devotion, you have upheld the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard."

An officer from Woods Hole Base commented, "I've worked with her on cases over the telephone and I can tell you: she knows what's going on and what has to be done about it. She's a character all right, but she takes her work seriously and can take charge of any situation. People listen to her. The contact I've had with her has proven to me how great a part she plays in the operation of search and rescue in the Nantucket area."

Photo by Beverly Hall

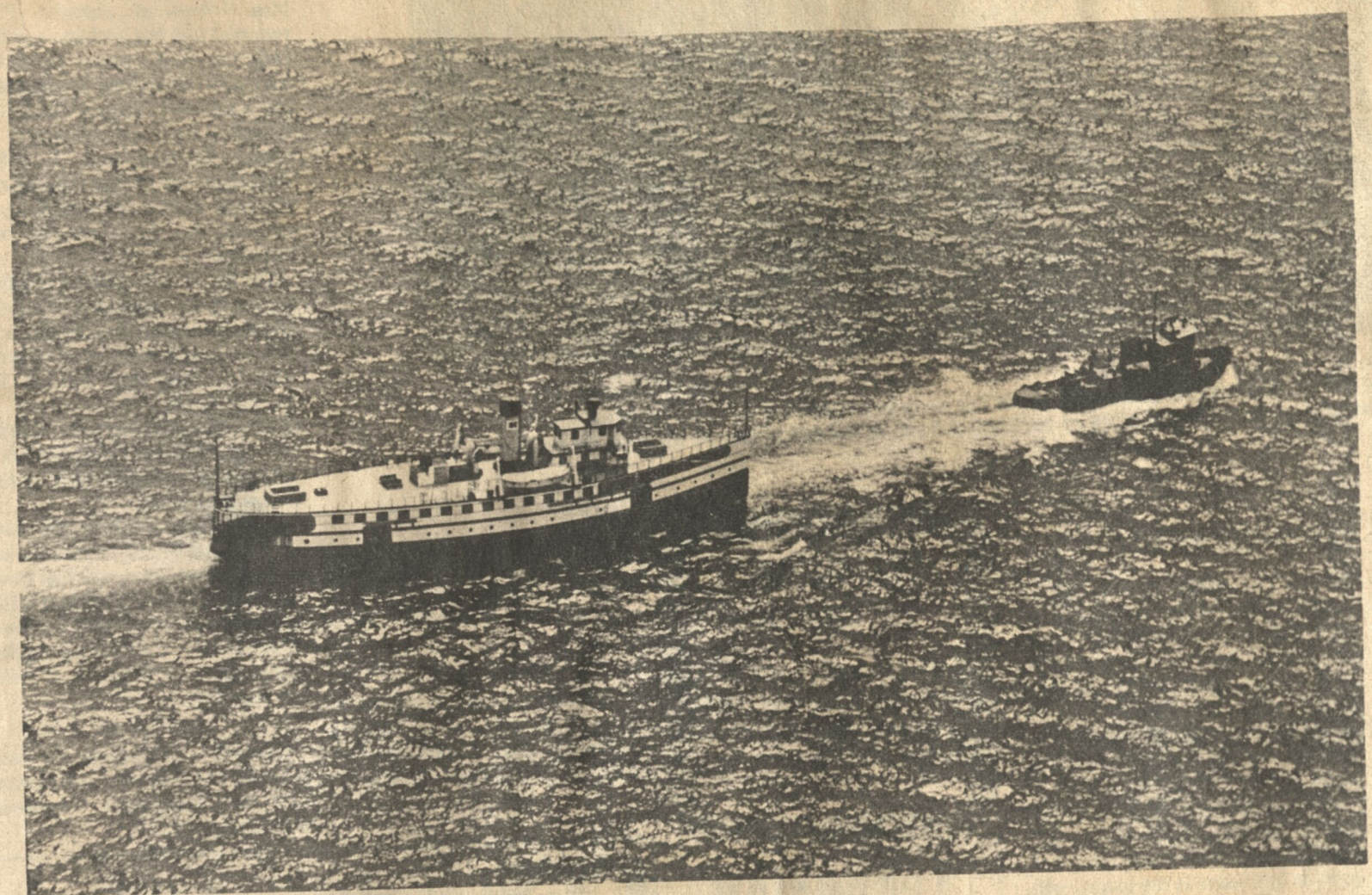
After Millie received the honorary title "Commander of the West End" from group commander J.H. Kittila, Jr. in 1965; after unofficial recognition by the area Coast Guard stations and after major publications documented her actions through the years, Captain Hanson felt that she still had not received the thanks that she was due. "This award, which is of a higher precedence than those normally recommended for civilian contributions to a military organization, will represent the culmination of a lifetime of service," he wrote in his recommendation to Vice Admiral Rea, commander of the Atlantic Area Coast Guard. "We hope that it will correct the gross inequity of the lack of previous official recognition."

L.O.N.T.

As "Madaket" Millie received congratulations from her myriad friends and admirers after the presentation, one remarked, "That's one hell of a woman." If Millie is true to her word, as she assuredly is, people will be saying this for the next half century.

Channel Five from Boston will televise a five minute feature of the ceremonies this evening during their six o'clock news.

"Crossing the bar"



After 50 years of faithful service steamer Nobska left her island home and crossed Nantucket Sound for the last time on June 26th, her worn and weary hull sliding silently away into the afternoon sun and calling to mind Tennyson's immortal lines:

"Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me!
And may there be no moaning of the bar,
when I put out to sea. . . "

THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 1975

Goodbye Nobska! She left today

The Nobska pulled away from Nantucket's Steamboat Wharf for the last time this afternoon under tow of the tug "Providence," captained by Fred Bopp of Fall River which is the immediate destination of the 50-year old steamer. The Nobska was purchased by Alfred Johnson this morning, and it is rumored that the steamer may be converted into a combination restaurant and museum. Once in Fall River the Nobska is due for a refitting and then is bound for Baltimore.

For the "Nobska"

by Joe Morin

The year was 1925.
America was reaching for the sky.
It was that year the "Nobska" came,
Down the coast from the state of Maine
Round Brant Point her whistle blew.
Those who heard were oh so few,
And that's the way it did begin;
That's the way she was ushered in.

The year was 1931.
A great depression had begun.
Trouble, too, for the "Nobska" new!
A broken bow on the ocean blue
Collided she did in the foggy air.
Who could repair with funds so rare?

Time marches on and the war does start.
Four white steamers must come to part.
Two have gone to serve the cause;
The "Nobska" stays, but does not pause.
To hide her by day she is painted gray,
But still she looks so bright and gay.

The year was 1944.
The end looked near for this terrible war.
J. O. Sandsbury, this ship's sire,
Had reached the day he must retire.
Twenty-four years they sailed together,
Through wind and rain and all kinds of weather.
"Good-bye, old salt", said J. O., in farewell,
And the "Nobska" rang one lonely bell.

The year was 1950,
And cars were pretty nifty.
"Make more room below
For those wide cars to go."
So this old ship was then rebuilt,
Unlike a flower, she must not wilt.
Then men said of your oldest kindred,
The ailing ship, the "Martha's Vineyard",
"What to do with this old relic?"
"Nothing to do but to sell it."

Now we have reached the present day.
What is your future, I cannot say.
A bigger ship is sailing the sound.
Such a controversy, it's the talk of the town.
With a whistle that blows ten times as loud,
You, old "Nobska", are as many times proud.
When I see you, you seem to say,
In such a quiet, peaceful way:
"Never send me to the old scrap pile;
It's here I belong — on Nantucket isle.
I knew your fathers, I knew your mothers;
I know your children and all the others.
I am old, but so is this town.

Lifesaving Museum receives Nantucket Lightship builder's plaque

Captain Robert J. Hanson, commander of the Woods' Hole Base Coast Guard Station, and Chief Warrant Officer Dick Rainville presented the builders' plaque of the last Nantucket Lightship to the president of the Lifesaving Museum, Mr. Robert Caldwell, in ceremonies Tuesday.

C.W.O. Rainville, the last commander of the lightship which operated from the station fifty-five miles southeast of Nantucket, said, "We felt that such memorabilia belonged at this museum, as it is an active collection of items representing the work of the Coast Guard and its predecessors in this area." Rainville decommissioned the Nantucket Lightship last March after its almost forty years of service in New England waters.

Five officers, including Captain Hanson and C.W.O. Rainville, attended the presentation. After a tour through the museum, President Caldwell accepted the two plaques and put them on display beneath the models of previous Nantucket lightships.

In thanking Captain Hanson and the Coast Guard for their generous gift, Caldwell said, "The museum would not have been established but for the missions that the Coast Guard has attempted and completed. I want to thank you, on behalf of Nantucket, for your interest in the Island." Captain Hanson replied that the interest was obviously reciprocal and that he and the Coast Guard appreciated it very much. The plaques will be on display at the Museum off Polpis Road during their regular hours, from ten until five weekdays and weekends, except Mondays.

Authority will dock Nantucket Lightship temporarily

The Board of Selectmen were assured by letter that the Steamship Authority has approved the Board's request to dock the former Lightship Nantucket on the south side of Steamboat Wharf on a temporary basis starting August 15. The Nantucket Historical Association was included in the docking approval.

Selectman Mitchell Todd said that he feels the lightship will be painted and ready to be brought to the island by August 18.

The Steamship Authority letter signed by John J. McCue, General Manager, added that the permission is granted for a period of up to six months and that if a further extension is necessary to prepare the permanent site at Straight Wharf, he said he felt certain the Authority would be cooperative.

He said, "The lease will be between the Town of Nantucket and the Authority and will be prepared and forwarded to you shortly. The lease will be in the amount of $1.00 (non-payable) and will necessarily contain the limitations concerning the insurance and also an indemnity clause that protects the Authority from claims from injuries, property damage, etc."

Former crewman of Nantucket Lightship congratulates town

To The Editor,

As an Islander and former crew member of the NANTUCKET, I have enjoyed reading about the ship's having found a permanent home with her namesake. Congratulations to the Town of Nantucket on their success in obtaining her, the best of the lightships.

I went aboard the NANTUCKET in 1965 as a BM3 and served two years. During this time we endured a hurricane in which the SS Michaelangelo, an Italian ocean liner, was hit by a fifty foot wave which damaged her bridge.

We were on station at anchor. Our anchor chain was damaged in the storm. We put into Woods Hole Coast Guard Base for emergency repairs. This was the first time the lightship ever went into Woods Hole. (Boston was the regular site for repairs.)

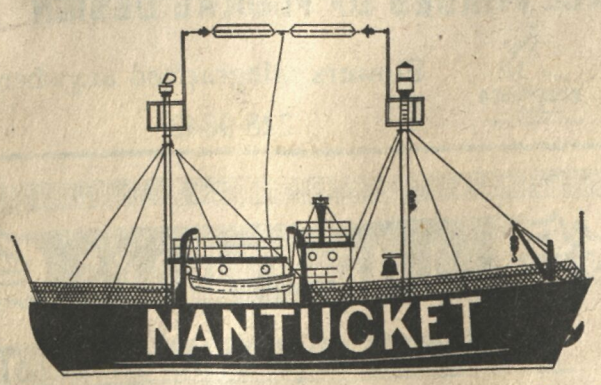
I thought you might like to have this picture of the Nantucket, underway for those repairs, taken at the entrance to Little Harbor, Woods Hole.

And, in accordance with the current trend of interest, you might be interested to know that crew members used to shoot sharks in the surrounding waters and take the teeth home for souvenirs. We didn't swim often.

I recently took my family to the Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wis., - hoping to alleviate a spell of homesickness. We found there a model of the WLV 534 NANTUCKET and a bottle of water labeled "Atlantic Ocean Salt Water".

We came home feeling more landlocked than ever. But we will hang in here where I am Officer-in-Charge of the Coast Guard Station Green Bay and continue enjoying the I&M until we can return East.

Sincerely yours,
Gerald F. Pickett BM1, USCG
USCG Canal Station
Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin
54235



–Welcome the Lightship in Style–

T-Shirts Available at

Nantucket Model T's

Steamboat Wharf

Summer band concert makes debut

History of SS Nobska recalled in Baltimore paper

Recent issues of the Baltimore Sun featured two articles on the Nobska, Nantucket's decommissioned steamboat ferry. Bought by Alfred Johnston to be turned into a seafood restaurant in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, the Nobska caught the attention of Thomas Halser and Peter Jay, two of the newspaper's columnists, who traced the history and future of the vessel in Baltimore.

Halser noted the changes that have taken place within the Nobska since she docked in Chesapeake Bay. The saloon deck, which will provide the main restaurant space, has been fully carpeted in red and black. During an overhaul in Fall River, the ship received a new top deck, heating and air-conditioning, and a new paint job, inside and out. He reported that Johnston predicts his restaurant will gross $900,000 a year, and will open sometime in October.

Jay recalled with sentiment the Nobska's 48 years of service to the islands in Nantucket Sound, saying that she "sliced through the tides with the elegance of her sharp-prowed generation - an elegance unmatched by the bulky diesel ferries, sea-going baked potatoes in appearance, that came later to the islands". The Nobska is now one of the two steam vessels on the National Historic Register, along with the Delta Queen, a Mississippi riverboat. He pointed out the poignancy of the situation - old New England steamer serving as a restaurant in a port far from her home.

"There is no point in getting maudlin about a ship," he wrote. "She was, and is, a piece of equipment, for all her beauty and style, and for all the tidesucked, windscoured work she did. She will be a fine addition to a part of Baltimore that grows more interesting and worth visiting each day."

"But remember diners, as you stand on the afterdecks this fall looking over at Federal Hill and waiting for your table, you are not just in a restaurant. This fine old piece of equipment is a ship. Treat her respectfully."

The "Nobska" has a home

Good news! The "Nobska"- last of the steamers- has a home- no, not in Nantucket- Like the "Alice Wentworth", the oldest steamer afloat she'll go abroad (Nantucket could have given her a home for few thousand dollars)- "Alice" died tragically of shame, as "decor" in a Boston Pizza Parlor. With a little luck the "Nobska "will runaground and smile gracefully in Nantucket Sound- Then we can erect a marker, possibly with the same inscription that W.C. Field composed for his own tomb-stone "Better here than Philadelphia."

Guess there was no money in the Nobska's old bones.

Ah yes, all the sentiment in Nantucket could be put in a gnat's navel , with room left for a real estate developers heart.

Glyn Lewis

The sale of the S.S. "Nobska" was finalized at the New Bedford Custom House last Thursday morning and the towboat "Providence" arrived here around 10 a.m., ready to start the tow to Fall River with the "Nobska". As the tide was low around that time and the "Providence" draws 12-12½ feet of water, she could not get alongside of the "Nobska" till closer to 1:30 p.m., giving more chance for the word to get around town that the "Nobska" was leaving, as quite a few folks had wanted to come down for a last look at her. No one knew the new owners plan for her until last minute Wednesday, except the last stages of the sale.

The writer and Mrs. Sayle were coming back from Hyannis on the "Brant Point" and met the "Nobska" and towboat at 3 p.m. off Tuckernuck Buoy. The M.V. "Brant Point" laid to, as the tow passed and gave her a whistle salute and played a couple streams from her fire hoses, in the air. As the "Nobska's" boilers were cold, the Providence answered the salute. While the S.S. Authority gets rid of this fine old steam powered vessel, with a lot of life still in her, down south, recently, two fine steamers have been built for the excursion business on the Mississippi River, one for day excursions and the other for over night runs.

The missing name board from the pilot house of the S.S "Nobska", taken earlier in the summer has been found in an island attic. Benny Cartwright recognized the young fellow he saw running from the wharf the night the board went missing, after the fellow was caught from another escapade, on town property. Hopefully the quarterboard will be kept on island.

Sept. 1975

Police investigate aborted theft of $200,000 yacht

The Nantucket police have had a lot of unusual things to investigate this summer and one of the most unusual concerns the yacht "Daril'x" belonging to Mrs. Allen Polivy of Newton, Mass.

Mrs. Polivy had been away over the past weekend and on her return found that the yacht, berthed at Old South Wharf, had been boarded in her absence and preparations had been made to take the boat out.

Patrolman Lionel Starr made an investigation Tuesday afternoon after Mrs. Polivy called the police. He found that the electric plug had been disconnected fron the wharf electric source and was neatly rolled up on the deck. The same thing had been done to the water hose and the lines had been loosened. Starr said there was evidence the cabin had been entered and searched, possibly for the key to the ignition. Nothing was stolen, Starr reported. The electric clock was stopped at 2:43, presumably the time the electric line was unplugged.

Patrolman Starr dusted the boat for fingerprints and said it was his opinion that someone was getting ready to steal the yacht. He said the boat is a 57 foot Chris Craft, twin engine, craft valued at about $200,000. The investigation is continuing.

Children unearth stolen church items in grass

Nantucket police last night received a report from Rev. Alfred Bingham of the First Congregational Church that children had found a number of items taken from the church in the break of July 25.

Patrolman Lionel Starr and Dennis Selon went to the church and investigated. Starr said that the items were 2 crosses, 2 candlesticks, 4 collection plates and a baptismal bowl. They were found by the children shortly after 6 p.m. in the grass on the northwest side of Bennett Hall.

The children, who range in age from 6 to 10 years, were listed as Jason and Chaney Kent, Mark Scherwenka, and Michael and Celia Fox. They reported their find to Rev. Bingham who in turn called the police.

Still unrecovered are the membership book and other record books that were also taken July 25 from the church. 1975

Dr. Paul M. Runge

Dr. Paul M. Runge, 67, of Fairgrounds Road, an eye surgeon, died Thursday, August 21, at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital after a long illness.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he was a graduate of Boston University Medical School and the University Eye Hospital in Berlin, Germany, and received his residency in ophthalomology at the Bellvue Hospital in New York.

Dr. Runge was on the staff at the Nantucket Cottage Hospital and was also an associate surgeon at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, clinical professor of ophthalomology at the Boston University Medical School and was attending surgeon at the Brockton Hospital, Goddard Memorial, Cardinal Cushing University Hospital and the Veterans Administration.

He was a member of the American Ophthalomogy Society and was also a member of the St. George Masonic Lodge in Brockton.

On Nantucket he held membership in the Nantucket Historical Association, Miacomet Golf Club, the Anglers' Club and the Nantucket Lions Club.

He had been a summer resident for 18 years prior to moving to the island where he lived year round for the past six years and practiced medicine.

He is survived by his widow, Alice (Hicks) Runge, and a daughter, Mrs. Deborah L. Menard.

Funeral services were held Saturday from the Lewis Funeral Home. Burial was in the Prospect Hill Cemetery.

Contributions may be made in his memory to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital. 1975

1875 – 100 Years Ago

Improvements at Prospect Hill Cemetery included an arch over the entrance, made by Charles H. Robinson.

1960 — 15 Years Ago

Brant Point Lighthouse was moved 25 feet back from its original position by a lighter from the Frank Taylor Marine Corp. so that a new foundation could be laid. Warnings to boatmen were issued with regard to the change of position of the signal light until such time as the little building would be moved back.

1900 – 75 Years Ago

The first alarm of fire in nearly two years was sounded on August 21. The entire fire department responded until it was realized the fire was at Madaket and an attempt to reach it would be useless. The engines returned to their quarters. It developed that a small house on Smith's Pond (James M. Ramsdell's) was burned to the ground.

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1925 – 50 Years Ago

4 young boys held a "sale" for the benefit of the Nantucket Cottage Hospital, contributing $18.00 to the fund. The boys were Cyril M. and Henry F. Davis, of Ottawa, Canada, and George W. and Harrison S. Fraker, of Plainfield. Total receipts of the Main Street Fete totaled $24,355.51.

NANTUCKET ISLAND
MASSACHUSETTS

Sample of Grace's "best" letter paper

Nantucket lightship finds permanent island home

The first part of the lightship crew to leave for Boston. Standing from left to right are Richard Hardy Mike Todd, Les Eldridge and Pete Grant. In front are Kenneth Holdgate, Sr. and Andy Docca.

Selectmen and Historical Association alleviate problems

After months of frustrating negotiations, the old "Nantucket" lightship was finally brought under the jurisdiction of Nantucket when final terms were smoothed out yesterday. Jack Gardner, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Executive Secretary Arnold Small, and Leroy True, President of the Nantucket Historical Association, announced Wednesday afternoon that by the end of this month the "Nantucket" lightship will round Brant Point to make Nantucket her permanent home. Temporary docking facilities will be arranged at Straight Wharf in-shore from the Hi-Line docking area. Some dredging will be undertaken to accommodate the 13½ foot draft of the 149 foot vessel. In addition, True related that while the lightship is still in dry dock, the Association will arrange to have the bottom of the boat painted, a 3 to 4 day job.

While the final details of the transfer were being worked out, a 12 member crew was piloting the old "Boston" lightship toward its new home in Atlantic County, New Jersey as part of the overall agreement. The Atlantic County Board of Chosen Freeholders had acquired priority over the Nantucket application for the "Nantucket" lightship by being the first to submit an application to the Federal Supply Service when the ship was advertised as surplus property. The New Jersey group had been searching for a lightship for some time which it will reportedly use as an oceanographic training vessel. However when the "Boston" lightship became available, the race was on to convince New Jersey citizens to accept her in lieu of the "Nantucket". Arrangements were bantered back and forth as Executive Secretary Small and Benjamin Richmond of the Nantucket Historical Association spent hours in long distance telephone conferences only to report optimistic results one day and pessimistic results the next. Nantucket was offered the "Boston" lightship as a substitute for the "Nantucket," but since that ship lacked any history of the island, the offer was not looked upon with favor. Finally the New Jersey citizens agreed to take the "Boston," but required that delivery of the ship be made to their home port.

Several times arrangements to fulfill this prerequisite was worked out only to fall flat at the last minute. Senator Ted Kennedy and Rep. Gerry Studds did much to aid Nantucket in its efforts whenever possible.

All early attempts to form a crew to pilot the "Boston" to Atlantic County hit snags. The New Jersey people forwarded a futile attempt to have a crew from that state sail the "Boston" to their home port. A Boston naval reserve crew was also "almost" organized to do the job, and a Nantucket crew was waiting in the wings several weeks ago only to learn at the last minute that the Atlantic County board had not made up its collective mind. And two days ago when everything seemed to be set, Small discovered that the release date listed on a telegram received from New Jersey by Nantucket Selectmen did not coincide with that recorded on a telegram received by the Monroe Dry Docking Company which was holding the ship.

But finally, much to the relief of all, the numerous technical snags were worked out this week, and the Nantucket crew, captained by Mike Todd, Les Eldridge and Pete Grant (81 years young and a former member of the Life Saving Museum) began the voyage down to New Jersey shores. They were accompanied by Chief Engineer Kenny Holdgate, Engineer Denny Dias, Ship's Electricians Richard Hardy and Jeff Marks, Electronic Technician Dick Mack, Able Bodied Seaman and Chef Andy Docca, and Mess Boy Dan Kelliher. Dr. Roy Stuart signed aboard as Ship's Doctor. The "Boston" was reported as having passed the mouth of Cape Cod Canal at 5:28 yesterday morning and is expected to complete the 55 hour journey sometime tonight.

With the decommission of the "Nantucket" and "Boston," and recently of the "Portland" lightships, the end of an era is fast approaching. All but two of the historic vessels have been replaced by automatic buoys that can be controlled by radio signal from the shore. Two lightships remain in service off the coast of the United States, one off the Nantucket Shoals, and one on the west coast which still guards the mouth of the Columbia River, off the coast of Washington State.

The "Nantucket" lightship will eventually be secured to a permanent mooring and is expected to be opened to visitors by next summer. Exhibits pertinent to the history of the ship and of its predecessors will be provided to show the links between the men who served on the lightships and the people of Nantucket, as well as exhibits showing the development of the famed Lightship baskets and cranberry scoops made by the men when off watch.

"For the men serving in the crew of the old 'Boston' lightship as it approaches New Jersey it is not only a trip of good will for Nantucket Island, but also a sad farewell for those who have spent many lonely hours manning those floating lighthouses.

"When the 'Nantucket' lightship rounds Brant Point sometime at the end of this month, a most appropriate reception will be awaiting her, including a 'Proud Mary' escort into Nantucket Harbor. Chief Engineer Holdgate claims that the foghorn will be working before the 'Nantucket' lightship crosses the bar, 'so that all of Nantucket will know that she has come to stay.' "

Town receives licensing plans for Wharf facilities

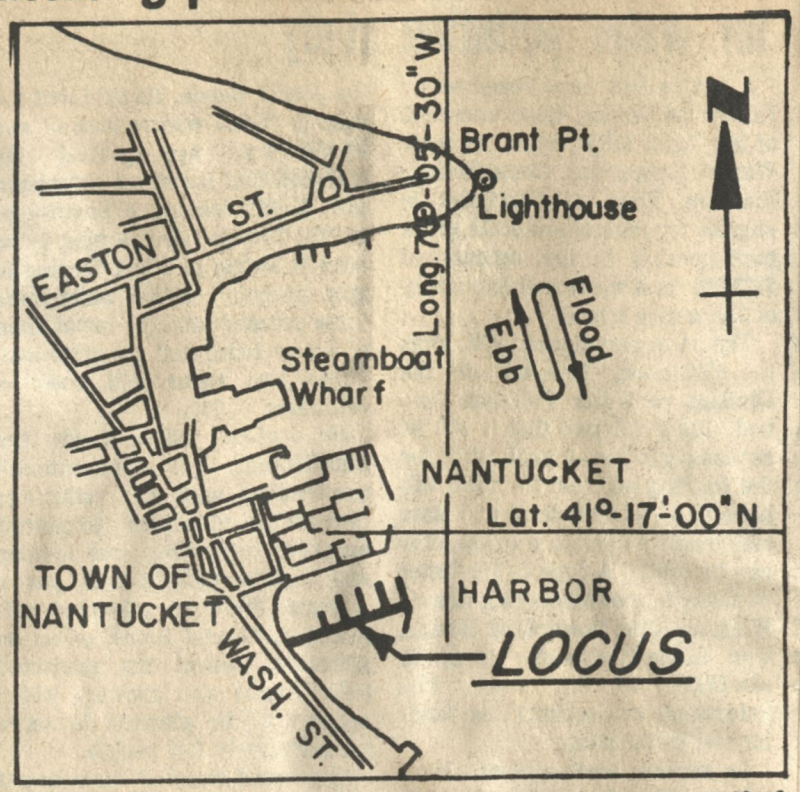
1975

The first mandatory step toward obtaining a town wharf was concluded this week when the town received completed licensing plans from the Tibbitts Engineering firm of New Bedford. The plans have shown that initially dredging won't be required if the first phase of construction of the Washington site is begun with finger piers 250 feet from shore. These finger piers will still give a minimum mean low water depth of 4 feet without any dredging and will be beyond private and state riparian rights.

The next step along the process will be to submit the licensing plans for public hearings before the Conservation Commission, the Division of Waterways, and the Army Corp of Engineers. A hearing has already been set to be held before the Conservation Commission on June 26 at 8 p.m. in the Town Building. The U.S. Army Corps will release a public notice by July 1 to which interested parties have 30 days to respond. The Division of Waterways has tentatively scheduled a public hearing in Boston for July 17.

If the necessary approval is obtained from these three boards, an application will be submitted to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of 50 percent reimbursement for land acquisition, and again if this reimbursement is secured, the land will be purchased by the town probably some time in the fall.

The proposed dock facility is slated to include a pile and timber supported public pier, mooring piles, sheet pile breakwater, fixed floats and related facilities. The overall plan is set up in two phases.



Phase One includes 60 slip spaces. Phase Two will be an extension of this to cover 120 boats and 100 cars. The dock facility, as well as the parking lot facility to be located on the opposite side of Washington Street, are to have low level foot-lighting. The dock facility will have water and electrical hook-ups and a maintenance house. Sewage pump-out facilities and gasoline sales are not anticipated.

There is no firm estimate available yet on the over-all cost of the dock and parking lot facility. The parking lot is mandatory if federal reimbursment funds are desired by the Town. However, rough estimates range from between $300,000 to $800,000, half of which will be reimbursed by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. In addition, no set figure exists at present as the user charge for the facility, but it is anticipated that there will be a reasonable charge to cover operating expenses, possibly giving preferential treatment to year-round residents and-or taxpayers.

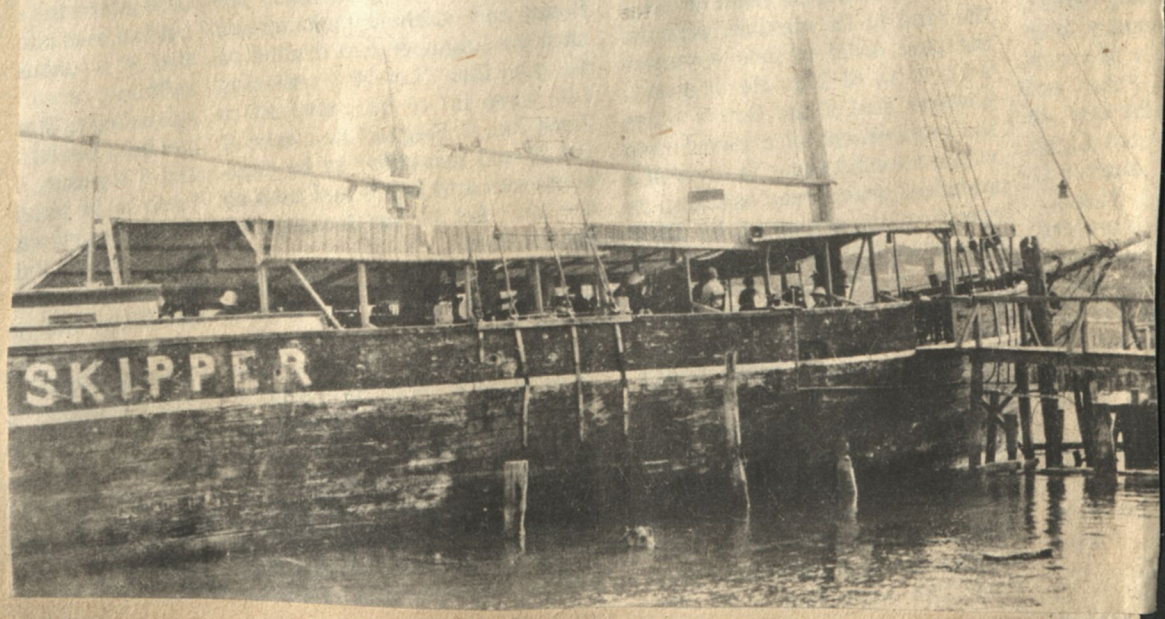
Thursday afternoon, a week ago, a small card attached to a string which had on the other end a broken balloon land on the lawn of Mrs. Bachman's property on West Chester Street. It was spotted by her neighbor Ernest P. Reed, who retrieved it and took it to Mrs. Bachman. The balloon had been launched only that morning from the Head of River Elementary School on Hollywood Drive in Smithtown, N.Y. It seems that the children of the 6th grade in that school were doing a project in which they were sending "Bicentennial Greetings" via the air waves and they were interested in learning just how far and where their individual balloons went. Mrs. Bachman's balloon was launched by a little girl named Edwina Lutz and was retrieved about ten hours after leaving Smithtown, having traveled through the air, via the prevailing winds, all the way to Nantucket. Mrs. Bachman collected several booklets, maps, pictures, etc. of Nantucket and sent them off to Edwina, hoping that her balloon turned out to be the one which traveled the furthest. Some sort of prize was to be awarded to the sixth grader whose balloon had achieved the hoped for goal.

1975

"The Skipper's" famous name to once again be part of Nantucket's Waterfront

by Leslie A. Johnston

1975



FROM SATELLITE PHOTO NASA ERTS

DESIGNED AND PUBLISHED BY MITCHELL'S BOOK CORNER, NANTUCKET

NANTUCKET SOUND FROM 560 MILES

1975

1900 — 75 Years Ago

On Labor Day evening dedication exercises were held at the Methodist Church in connection with the Abiah Folger Franklin Memorial Fountain, in location on the Madaket Road. A tablet, suitably engraved, was presented by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which tablet presently forms the back portion of the fountain, only a few yards away from the location where Benjamin Franklin's mother had lived during a major portion of her life.

— 0 —

The season's worst hurricane, Gladys, passed by us last Thursday night or Friday morning, some 350 miles to the east, causing no problems for the island. Ten or eleven off island draggers laid in for shelter as well as the local lobster fleet. Nantucket has not seen a real heavy summer breeze in quite a few years. Oct 2 - 1975

— 0 —

1925 — 50 Years Ago

Superior Court had neither civil nor criminal cases. Judge Lourie was presented white gloves as a symbol of the purity of the court, which lasted less than a half hour.

1955 – 20 Years Ago

The contract for the construction of a new hospital for Nantucket was signed on October 17, the general contractor being O. D. Purington Construction Co., of Providence. The hospital's president was Henry B. Coleman and the building committee included Mitchell Todd, chairman, Leroy A. True, A. M. Craig, Jr., Paul Badger, Dr. Ernest H. Menges, and Mrs. Robert D. Congdon.

Labor Day came and went and with it went out around Brant Point a majority of the beautiful yachts and motor sailors which have been anchored in the harbor or tied up at the marina. The harbor already appears almost empty. The gale winds which were forecast (and the flags flying from Brant Point station) no doubt had a great deal to do with many of the smaller craft being hauled out of the water ahead of schedule.

Babesiosis: a medical curiosity — Nantucket has seven of eleven known cases

The fifth case of babesiosis, a rare and frequently mild disease caused by the bite of a tick, was recently diagnosised on Nantucket. While only eleven cases of babesiosis have been identified world-wide, seven of these have been on Nantucket with one occurring in 1969, one in 1973, and five this summer.

According to a Board of Health public notice circulated last Friday, symptoms of the disease appear about a month after the tick bite is sustained in the form of weakness, fever, chills, headache and pain in the muscles and joints. Recovery, the notice says, may be spontaneous or may require medication, Since the disease most closely resembles malaria, it is treated similarly with chloroquine.

Dr. David Voorhees explained Friday that babesosis is caused by a protozoan type of micro-organism, carried by a tick. Since little is known about the disease, doctors are not sure if chloroquine is actively responsible for affecting a cure, or if the individuals treated would have recovered anyway. Voorhees explained that the tick which is suspected of carrying the disease is the very small deer tick, rather than that variety usually found on dogs. This theory is perhaps somewhat re-inforced by the fact that most of the people bitten this summer had been picking wild berries.

Voorhees related that at a very early stage all ticks live on mice. The disease is apparently transmitted from infected mice to ticks.

"The first thing people are going to think of is spraying to destroy the tick," the doctor said. "But ticks have a very high resistance to insecticides. It may require so much spray to kill the tick that we kill all the birds as well. We may even kill ourselves."

He related that experts have considered another alternative which is to treat the infected mice. The suggestion of destroying the mice was met with a reminder that even rodents provide a link in the balance of life and provide food for the next link, hawks, for example.

A group of 22 volunteer firemen have informed the Selectmen that they will perform a canvass of 500 Nantucket families chosen at random to learn if other people may have had the disease in the past, but had been unaware of it and thus recovered without treatment.

The Board of Health has advised that persons suffering from the listed babesiosis symptoms after a tick bite should seek treatment from a doctor. Although none of the cases diagnosed on Nantucket have been fatal, the disease diagnosed in Europe have had more serious results,

Babesiosis, which because of its repeated occurance on Nantucket during the recent months is now regarded as a "medical curiosity" and is being studied by a doctor from the Harvard School of Public Health and a Federal Health inspector from Atalnta, Georgia, along with Nantucket authorities. A report of their findings should be available in about two weeks.

1875 — 100 Years Ago

The latest census gave Nantucket a permanent population of about "3200 souls", little more than one third of what it boasted in 1840.

There were some 75 carriages at the South Shore to witness the trial of L.A. Peck's new life-saving machine. It was designed on the principle of an old Roman catapult, for the casting of a line out over a stranded vessel. It was a convenient size to be carried about, but reached a distance of only 40 fathoms. Its inventor planned to make considerable changes in order to improve its range.

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1925 — 50 Years Ago

Nantucket became the base for Coast Guard operations against the rum runners. The fleet was transferred here from Greenport, L.I. The mother ship, "Wayanda" was towed over and berthed on the north side of Straight Wharf. 18 small patrol boats, carrying a total of 184 men, was stationed here, under the command of Lt. Cmdr. Lorenzo C. Farwell.

September 8, 1975, will mark the 100th anniversary of the opening of "a new female college". That college, which began its career on September 8, 1875, was Wellesley College in Wellesley, Mass.

Enjoy and Defend Carillon

Dear Editor,

I wish to say that I am very pleased with my stay on Nantucket. The entertainment offered by the English Country Dancers was of a very high caliber and well done. My praise goes to the young people who worked so hard, spent many hours of practice and gaily performed the intricate steps of the various dances.

I also enjoyed the hymns from the carillon at noon, evening and night. I listened to them close by and also a short distance in the open fields and again I was delighted.

Am now leaving with the best of pleasant memories of Nantucket.

Sincerely,
Dr. Clarke A. Carle
Florida

Congregational Church book returned

Good news for the members of the First Congregational Church! Acting Chief George Rezendes reported this morning that the large engraved membership book that was missing after the break of July 28 has been recovered and has been returned to the church.

Chief Rezendes declined to state the circumstances of its recovery. Needless to say it was valued at $600, but because of its history and the records it contained, it was irreplaceable and its actual value cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

Sept. 1975

Lighthouse Baptist Church moves to 30 Main Street

The 'Lighthouse Baptist Church, which has been holding services at 32 Hooper Farm Road, moves into larger quarters this Sunday, September, 14, at 30 Main Street over the Spectrum. Rev. Robert Norris said the move was necessssitated because of the urgent need for more Sunday School classrooms and a larger auditorium.

Nursery serverice is provided at each service which is open to every member of the community who wishes to attend. Sunday services are Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., Morning Worship at 11 a.m. and Evening Worship at 7 p.m. A Wednesday evening Pray and Bible Study is held at 7 p.m.

1975

Those wishing further information or needing transportation may call 228-4252.

Andrew Swain and his son, Andrew, have returned to their home in Savannah, Georgia, after spending a week visiting with the elder Andrew's mother, Mrs. Gladys Swain, of 38 Fair Street. Andrew was born here and no doubt many of his old schoolmates remember him.

Plaque restored to Altar Rock

Some years ago the Altar Rock Reservation was presented to the Nantucket Historical Association in memory of Henry Coffin, who was a life-long resident of the Island. A few years ago the plaque so designating Altar Rock was removed by vandals and there was never any success made in finding the plaque. Since that time, until now, Altar Rock, in Saul's Hills, has had a noticeable ugly empty space on its southern side.

Altar Rock, in Saul's Hills, is the most famous of these hill-tops, although Folger's Hill, a few yards to the east, is a few feet higher than Altar Rock which is normally considered the highest point above sea level on the island.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Frank H. Low the Nantucket Historical Association has been indeed fortunate in having a duplicate of the original plaque installed on Altar Rock.

The inscription on the Rock reads:

"This Reservation is given to the Town of Nantucket
as a Memorial to Henry Coffin,
a life-long and much beloved
Resident of the Island
1807 - 1900
Given by his Grandson
Henry Coffin Everett."

COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
Nantucket, ss.

PROBATE COURT

To all persons interested in the estate of **Effie L. Pond** late of Nantucket in said County, deceased.

The executor of the will — of said **Effie L. Pond** has presented to said Court for allowance his First and Final account.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Nantucket before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the thirteenth day of November 1975, the return day of this citation.

Witness, Alfred C. Knight, Esquire, Acting Judge of said Court, this fifteenth day of October 1975.

Irene M. Smith, Register

10-23-3t

Presentation of Jean Shepard Memorial to be held Saturday noon

Sept. 13, 1975

A bronze sculpture of a deer and her doe will be presented to the Maria Mitchell Association in a brief dedication at 12 noon Saturday. The sculpture, given in memory of Jean Adams Shephard by her family and friends, is placed alongside the pool of the bird garden, across Vestal Street from the Observatory and to the west of the library. Those wishing wishing to may attend the dedication ceremonies.

Jean Shephard, daughter of Mrs. Powell Ensign of Sharon, Ct., and Dr. Edward Shepard of Woodstock, Vt., was the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Yates of Nantucket and New York City. She was killed in an automobile accident in June of 1974 while a sophomore at the University of New Hampshire.

For several summers Miss Shepard worked at Mt. Vernon farm and also apprenticed in silversmithing on the island. She was an avid skiier and an accomplished artist. Her interest in the environment could well have dated from summers spent at Surfside during childhood when she attended nature classes at the Lydia Hinchman House.

The deer and doe, the work of Nantucket artist Cynthia Lyman whose sculptured animals are also in the Boston Children's Hospital Garden, is placed alongside a pool on the property acquired by the Association in 1961 from the George Dyer estate. The bird garden, a quiet corner of the Vestal Street campus set aside for contemplation and relaxed conversation, abounds in boxwood, arbor vitae, cedar and birch, with ferns and ground covers of vinca minor and ivy and many wildflowers in the summer and spring, according to Miss Joan Manley, groundskeeper. The pool will also contain water lilies, Miss Manley said.

Dedication ceremonies will follow the fall meeting of the board of managers of the Maria Mitchell attended by officers, managers, committee chairmen and directors of the various activities. Dr. Alfred Bornemann, president, will accept the sculpture for the Association, The Rev. Edward B. Anderson of the Nantucket Unitarian Church will participate. Contributions for the sculpture will be gratefully accepted. Checks should be made out to the Jean Shephard Memorial Fund and mailed to Miss Louise Jacobs, Nantucket, Mass. 02554.

The vanes were replaced on the Old Mill Monday afternoon and, wind permitting, the venerable old Nantucket institution will be once again grinding corn during the summer season. 1975

police officer. ... editorial offices of the

Marjorie MacDonald

8-21-75

Miss Marjorie F. MacDonald, 68, died on August 10, at her home in Winchester, Mass. With her sisters, she had been a summer resident of Nantucket for many years, occupying the family home on Prospect Street.

She was the daughter of the late Allan J. and Catherine A. Roberts MacDonald.

She is survived by her sisters, the Misses Christine, Helen and Augustine MacDonald and a brother, John MacDonald, all of Winchester, Mass., and Nantucket.

1955 – 20 Years Ago

The Selectmen approved the name change of Green Street to Green Lane, as petitioned by the residents.

81st Sons and Daughters Meeting set for Nov. 19

1975 1595

The eighty-first annual Fall meeting of the Sons and Daughters of Nantucket will be held Wednesday, November 19, at the Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy Street, Cambridge. The a la carte bar will open at 6 p.m. with dinner served promptly at 7 p.m.

K. Dun Gifford will be the featured speaker. His topic will be: "Nantucket: Little Grey Lady; or Anyplace USA?"

Invitations have been mailed to members but any person who loves Nantucket and is interested in the future of the Island is cordially invited to attend the meeting and join the Sons and Daughters of Nantucket. Reservations must be made before November 14 with Mrs. Roger Merrill, Wayside Inn Road, Framingham, Massachusetts 01701.

The vanes were removed from the Old Mill Tuesday and stored away for the winter. The Old Mill has had a most successful season, under the guidance of Richard Swain, who has had it turning every day there has been wind enough to move the vanes - even without its suit of sails. We're getting used, now, to seeing the Old Mill facing in all directions, according to the wind, but at first it was a bit confusing and a couple of times have had to go all the way up the hill to make sure it still had all four vanes on! The corn ground at the Mill is still available from the Historical Association office on Union Street, even if the miller has colsed the door for the season.

OCT 8 1975

The Nantucket Garden Club

Tourism in 1975 up over last year

Over 500 more people have secured lodging through help from the Nantucket Information Bureau this year than did in 1974. With one weekend left in October, the current total of 6,995 will easily exceed 7,000 by November 1.

Fall migratory birds are going through, although we don't get anywhere near the variety that our neighbors do over on the Vineyard. Flocks of juncos are feeding on lawns everywhere, while the warblers (several species) are at the thistleseed feeders, stuffing themselves in preparation for a long flight southward. The starlings gather nightly on the electric and telephone wires by the hundreds, then settling down in the pine trees just as darkness falls. An uncommon, but not hitherto unknown, visitor is the lapland longspur, of which a pair of males were seen at the airport yesterday afternoon. The beauty of this species is so unusual that it quickly attracts attention.

200 senior citizens use bus; 'Sconset Day will be Tuesdays

During the first three weeks in October, 203 rides were supplied by the Nantucket Center for Elder Affairs to persons age 60 and over. The Center van is now well established and is being used by new riders who have heard about the transportation service from neighbors and friends.

Tuesday has been designated as "Siasconset Day". Siasconset residents who wish to use the van on Tuesday are picked up at their homes at approximately 11:15 a.m. The van leaves Nantucket town at 2 p.m. for the return run to Siasconset.

Bus passes for persons age 60 and over are available at the Nantucket Center for Elder Affairs at 4 Darling Street. The van operates on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Riders are encouraged to phone the Center at 228-4647 the day before a ride is needed to allow for scheduling at the Center office. 1975

The Old Bake Shop on Lower India Street
Taken Down Only Two Decades Ago

Hospital receives $30,000 from Thrift Shop 1975

Morning sun on Sachacha and sea

Lonely road across the moors

C. G. helicopter rescues 7 from sinking cruiser

Photo by Frederick Clow
Coast Guard helicopter prepares to lower pumping equipment to sinking Sea Mist.

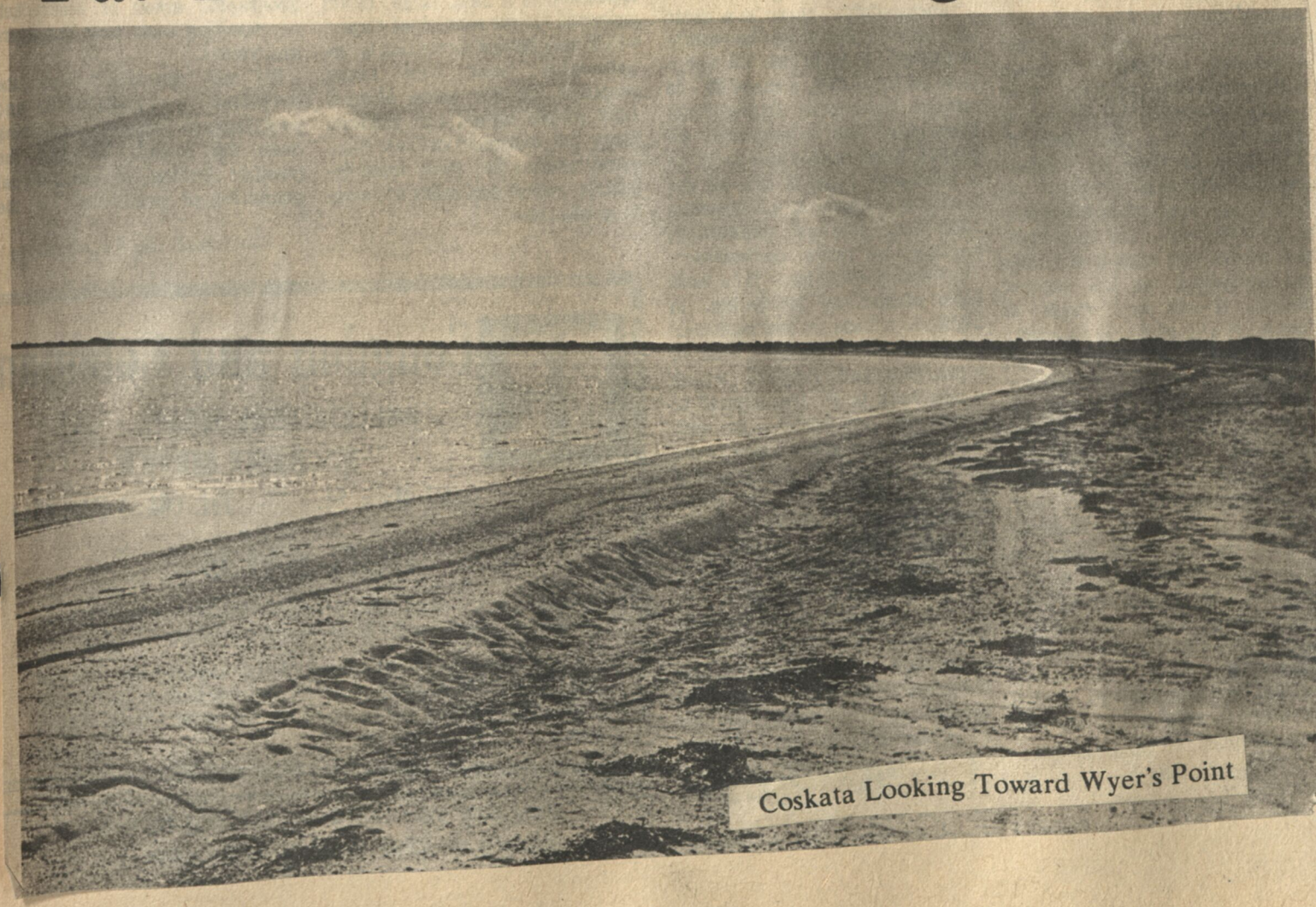
1975

Survivors of sinking boat rescued Tuesday; in raft two days

Brant Point Coast Guard Station had occasion to play host to four castaways Tuesday night after the men had been rescued by another lobster boat and brought to Nantucket. Their fishing boat the "Polumbo", apparently struck a heavy submerged object very early Sunday morning while cruising on the edge of the continental shelf due south of Nantucket. The boat sank almost immediately, giving the watch on deck barely time to wake the men below and get a liferaft over the side.

The four men, Paul Carey, Bob Mirand, Robert Bresnahan and Buster Moniz, drifted in the raft for two days, in that time sighting only one vessel a steamer which did not see them. About Tuesday noon the lobster boat "Retriever" found them only a few miles northwest of where their boat went down, took them aboard and brought them to Nantucket, coming in about 11 p.m. Tuesday. The men were given quarters at Brant Point Station for the night and next morning they left on the morning trip of the M. V. Nantucket for Woods Hole.

"Far From the Maddening Crowd"



Coskata Looking Toward Wyer's Point

A dream

I'd sell my silver slippers and my Oriental jade
For one day in Nantucket beneath the pine tree shade
Oh! to be there in the morning when the sea is calm and bright
Just to stand and watch the sail boats is such a lovely sight
The lap lap of the water the changing of the tide
The color of the sand dunes where children play and hide
Yes, I'd sell my silver slippers and my Oriental jade
For one day in Nantucket where pleasant dreams are made.

Helen R. Murry

(Continued on Page Five)

Home from the sea

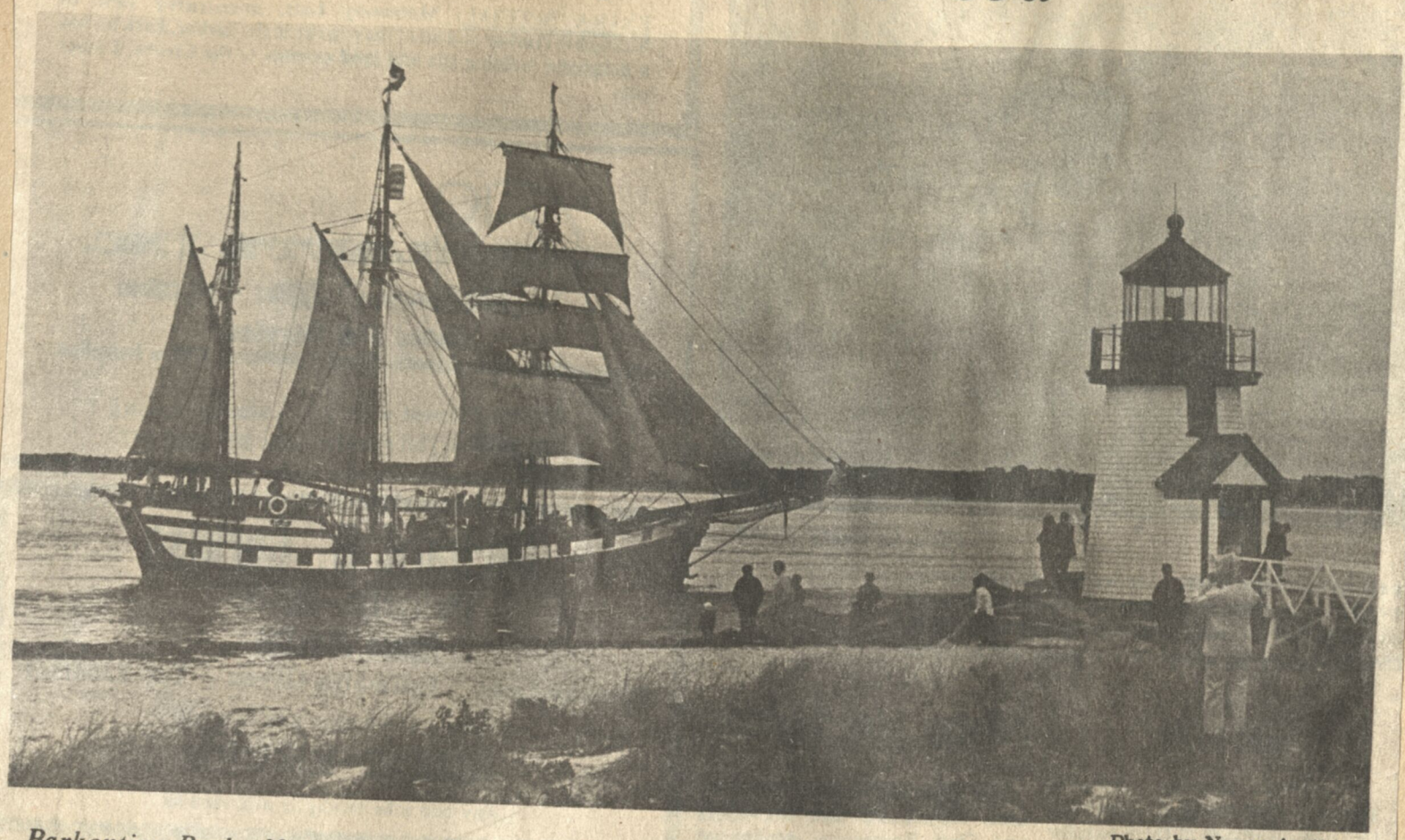


Photo by Nancy Ayotte

Barkentine Barba Negra rounds Brant Point full and by on the port tack on a voyage to dramatize the impending extinction of great whales. A two day no'easter extended the vessel's visit, much to the delight of islanders.

THE INQUIRER

Wednesday December 2, 1835 — Nantucket, Massachu

THANKSGIVING

This festival is appointed by the state authorities to be held tomorrow. Some of the Boston Editors are grumbling loudly that all the other New England States are a week in advance of us in this respect – and seem disposed to cast reproach upon the Lt. Governor for procrastinating their opportunity to praise heaven and fill their stomachs with pumpkin pies. We trust that when the day does arrive, they will be found in a more fit mood to enjoy the occasion. No man, while he feels ill humored towards his fellows, can show thankfullness to God with any manner. One of the disaffected murmurs because we shall have nothing but the "leavings", as he says, of our neighbors. Is this intended as a reproach on the scores of prayers and praises, or of pigs and poultry? It cannot be doubted, we think, that however we may have been forestalled in either, there will be room *enough for all.*

This is the earliest reference to Thanksgiving on Nantucket that could be found by researchers at the Foulger Museum. We thought you might find it interesting. Our thanks to these folks at Foulger for helping locate the item: Mrs. Louise Hussey, Edouard Stackpole, Victoria Donahue, Lauren McAloon and JoAnn.
(We've taken some liberty in layout, but changed not a word.)

All of ***the Maury people*** *wish you and your family the most pleasant Thanksgiving.*

Restaurant on Nobska to open in February 1976

Nantucketers heading South in February might look around the Baltimore waterfront for a new restaurant aboard the familiar and well-loved Steamer Nobska. It was announced earlier in the month that Papillon, Ltd., the operator of restaurants in Annapolis, Ellicott City and Galesville, Md., has been selected to run the restaurant aboard the 50-year-old Nobska. It is expected that operations will begin in February with a capacity for 100 diners.

It is reported that the new restaurant will concentrate on seafood, even though Papillon is known in the area for French fare. Luncheons are expected to be served buffet style for about $2.50 and dinner prices will range from $6 to $9 per person, exclusive of wine.

The Nobska is presently moored on the west side of the Baltimore harbor basin near Light Street and is under the jurisdiction of Robert C. Embry, Jr., the city housing commissioner who oversees the inner harbor development. The Inner Harbor plan calls for the Nobska to be moved to Pier 3 on Pratt Street after improvements there are complete but that move is not expected for another two years. About the same time it is expected that the restaurant capacity aboard the Nobska will be doubled. If the remaining capacity is not employed by Papillon within that period of time the city has the right to contract with another restauranteur to use the remaining space.

The Steamer Nobska was sold to Alfred Johnston of Villa Nova, Penna., for a reported $61,750. Nantucketers said farewell to the faithful old vessel Thursday afternoon, June 26, 1975, when she pulled away from her berth at Steamboat Wharf for the last time under the tow of the tugboat Providence. The vessel was towed to Fall River for refitting and then on to Baltimore. According to reports in the Baltimore Sun Johnston has agreed to pay the city $24,000 a year plus 4 per cent of the gross receipts between $600,000 and $800,000. On gross receipts in excess of $8000,000, the city will receive 5 per cent.

Nantucket Lightship due to arrive at Nantucket December 7

1975

The Nantucket Lightship is scheduled to arrive in Nantucket Harbor Sunday, December 7. Due to her deep draft, 13½ feet, she will enter the harbor at high tide about 3:00 p.m. and will be moored on the south side of Steamboat Wharf.

The crew that took the Boston Lightship to Atlantic City last summer, under the command of Mike Todd, will bring the Nantucket to the island from Munro's Drydock in Chelsea, where cleaning and painting the bottom was completed last Saturday.

Ben Richmond, chairman of the Lightship Committee, and Mike Todd, of the Historical Association, visited the lightship last week while she was in drydock. They reported the bottom was completely covered with a three inch thick crop of mussels. It would have been virtually impossible to maneuver the ship under such conditions. The lightship was last in drydock in April 1971 and has been moored in Boston and Chelsea since last March. It is likely much of the growth of the mussels occurred over the past few months in Boston Harbor as the result of the unusually warm summer and fall.

The bottom has been scraped clean of the mussels, and sandblasted to bare metal. A primer coat, three coats of anti-corrosive paint and two coats of cold plastic anti-fouling paint have been applied which should protect the bottom for quite a few years. The hull was reported in good condition.

Prior to releasing the ship the Coast Guard painted out the name Nantucket on the hull. Ben Richmond obtained permission from Coast Guard headquarters in Boston to have the name repainted on the ship. This is being done this week.

Mike Todd, engineer Kenney Holdgate and Ben Richmond plan to go to Boston December 3 to check out equipment and get supplies on board the lightship. Arrangements are being made to fly the rest of the crew to Boston early Saturday, December 6. It is planned to get the lightship underway Saturday afternoon to make the trip to Nantucket.

The Nantucket Lightship was obtained, after months of negotiations, by the Board of Selectmen for the Town as it could not be obtained directly by the Historical Association. It has been leased by the Town to the Historical Association on a long term basis. The vessel will be operated as a floating historical exhibit and museum by the Association which is paying the expenses of the shipyard and for the preparation of the vessel's permanent berth at Straight Wharf. Sherburne Associates has leased the berth to the Association.

The lightship will moor at Steamboat Wharf until the berth at Straight Wharf is ready. Much work must be done to prepare the berth. The area must be dredged to a depth that will accept her deep draft. Prior to this permits must be obtained from the Massachusetts Dept. of Waterways and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Applications have been filed but obtaining the permits is a time-consuming process, much longer than the actual dredging operation will take. Approval has already been obtained from the Nantucket Conservation Commission.

Nantucket Lightship arrives this Sunday

Dec. 7, '75

The Nantucket Lightship will round Brant Point at approximately 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 6. The tentative schedule calls for the light ship to leave Boston on Saturday morning for the Sunday arrival in Nantucket, however the journey is dependent on fairable weather conditions. If all goes well, town officials are planning a short ceremony at Steamboat Wharf to welcome the ship to its new home. As soon as dredging and other requirements are completed, the ship will be moved to Straight Wharf where it will be docked as a permanent Nantucket exhibit.

Christmas trees to be used against erosion

Gilbert Corcoran, Supt. of the Town DPW, announced last night that if the people would bring their discarded Christmas trees to the DPW Garage his department will put them to good use by planting them in various dunes areas where they will serve to hold the sand from blowing away. In building up the dunes it serves the purpose of erosion control. 1975

1925 + 50 Years Ago

The laying of the water mains in 'Sconset was completed. The last two hydrants in the center of the village were installed on December 23rd. For the first time in history 'Sconseters had a water supply in the winter months. The system was named the " 'Sconset Water Plant", with its office at the south side of the highway. 'Sconset now had water for both fire and domestic purposes.

Nantucket had a "white Christmas".

Nantucket High School's [illegible]

Geological Well Showing Signs of Life;

Now Below 500 feet

Sample of carbonaceous clay from 425-ft. depth showing fossil leaf imprint at bottom center of lump. Swiss Army jackknife shows

At 725 feet well is over

100 feet into salt water

1975 Dec. 4

With every passing day the U.S. Geological Survey well sinks deeper, and while there are still disappointingly few signs of microscopic fossil life, it is some consolation to the geologists that the sediments are becoming firmer, thereby yielding better core samples. More clay is being encountered, and some of the sand at this depth is partially cemented by calcite, a form of calcium carbonate. This makes a solid core which is much more likely to be undisturbed and free of contamination from drilling mud at its center.

By Tuesday afternoon the well had penetrated below 700 feet, or a little more than 200 meters, and was well into the Upper Cretaceous. (Cretaceous means "Chalk-bearing" and the period received its name from the Cliffs of Dover, where the rocks of this period were first described.) A mottled red-and-gray clay bed from just below 600 feet, retrieved Monday, was recognized as being from the same layer that lies exposed at the base of the cliffs at Gay Head, on the Vineyard. The well first entered what is thought to be Cretaceous sediments at 400 feet, on November 17.

The first objective of the well, to plot the depth and thickness of the

had been anticipated, the samples staying below the definitive amount of 250 parts of chloride per million until about 540 feet, which depth was reached on the 26th. Then over the next 75 feet the percentage of salt rose in zigzag fashion to about 2.8 percent on Sunday, at 615 feet. The salt percentage was measured in the surf recently at 3.1, (slightly below the offshore figure of 3.5), so the well is essentially in the salt water zone now.

A rutted road winds its way through Trott's Hills

During restoration work at the Nantucket Atheneum a [illegible] revival platform was revealed under an old stage which was being dismantled in order to make room for a large rear stairway.

On December 7 work was completed at the C.A.A. Madaket towers by a group which included Radio Maintenance Chief Grover Palmer, assistants Fred Cook and John Schneider, Gordon Turner and Tom Giffin. Tom, who was "high man on the totem pole", had spent three and one-half days attaching structural supports necessary for the support of 8 vertical antennae wire running parallel from the ground. High winds and below freezing temperatures had made the project the more hazardous.

The Nantucket Cottage Hospital received a new Cadillac ambulance on December 7.

—0—

1900 – 75 Years Ago

Land at Quaise was advertised for sale, including the historic Miriam Coffin estate. The land was bounded on three sides by salt water and on the south by the main road.

On December 4 a northeast storm of "marked energy" struck the island, a tempest with gale winds reaching an extreme of 80 mph. The barometer dropped to 29.03 at 1:45 a.m. on the 5th.

—0—

1925 – 50 Years Ago

Jacob Abajian advertised Nantucket lightship baskets at $2.50 and up, sets of 5, 6 and 7 baskets at $38.00 and up.

The old steam fire engine (bought in 1896) was moved to the electric light station, to provide better protection to the "dangerous part of town."

—0—

1950 – 25 Years Ago

Walter Barrett was appointed special police for Madaket pier duty where some scallopers were misusing the town pier.

The newly organized Rotary Club took over the project of the Main Street Christmas trees, although the merchants were still purchasing and planting their own.

1835 – 140 Years Ago

William H. Gardner found the Morus Multicaulis to withstand rigors of Nantucket winters – in an exposed spot, in light sandy soil. 250 of these were planted at Quaise farm, where there were also Italian or white mulberry growing from 3 to over 30 years old. Morus Multicaulis is the Chinese mulberry tree.

—0—

Town will feel economic impact from loss of Navy Base

U. S. Naval Facility to close June 30, 1976; move to start immediately

Nantucket's U. S. Naval Station at Tom Nevers will board up its windows and lock its doors by June 30, 1976. This order came down from Rear-Adm. G.E.R. Kinnear II, chief of legislative affairs in a letter released earlier this week as part of an effort to cut back on Navy spending.

Kinnear summed up this action as one to provide the financial and manpower reserves for future oceanographic research programs and new developments by closing naval facilities which would render the least operational impact during the transitional period.

Affected by this decision are 123 enlisted men, 13 officers and four civilians. Although the release from Washington listed transfer locations for officers and enlisted men, Base Commander John Dooley explained that these military commands listed in Virginia, Japan, Hawaii, and Maryland will have spaces made available to them, but that these spaces will not necessarily be filled by those men now stationed on Nantucket. Cutbacks in Navy personnel will occur since fifty-one slots for enlisted men and three for officers will not be filled by the Navy as men conclude their tours of active duty, the release said. In addition, four civilians who currently hold on-base jobs at the Nantucket facility in the Commissary and Exchange will be dropped from the Navy rooster. Dooley explained that every effort will be made to re-locate these individuals in other government jobs in Nantucket, however these positions are limited, he said.

The move to close the base on Nantucket reportedly will save the Navy approximately $849,000 per year. This figure appears to have been reached by subtracting the annual base payroll of $1.070 million from the salaries of the 51 enlisted and 3 officers slots which will be eliminated from the Navy by June 30. Dooley stated that in addition, the Nantucket station has been operating on a yearly budget of $200,000.

Most of this budget has gone into purchasing local services, the Commander said. The U.S. Navy base at Tom Nevers is the second largest consumer of electricity on the island requiring the Nantucket Electric Company to purchase 60,000 gallons of oil per year to supply the base. The first largest consumer is the U.S. Coast Guard on Nantucket. Dooley explained also that his base probably registers the largest phone bill in Nantucket. Other businesses which should feel a severe affect of the Navy cut-back are Harbor Fuel, Island Lumber Company, Wannacomet Water Co., Sears and Roebucks, Inc., and Cape and Islands Construction Co.

Navy holdings of 45.68 acres at the Tom Nevers base, and 6.80 acres at Gouin Village will now be made available to any federal agency which might have a use for these sites. Dooley stated that he expects these areas to be made available separately. If no federal agency shows an interest, the state will be offered the land, and then the town. Gouin Village consists of 33 units of family housing. Nineteen of these buildings were constructed under the Cape Park Housing Program in 1962, and are mortgaged for approximately $185,000 which the next buyer will have to assume. Fourteen other houses in Gouin Village are owned wholly by the Navy and were built in 1968.

Dooley said that approximately 38 children will be moved out of the Nantucket School system which will affect the reinbursement of the school budget by roughly $15,000 which Nantucket receives from public law 874 from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Landlords in Nantucket will also see a cut-back of 30 families who presently rent off-base housing.

The Navy Commander stated that he hopes to have the bulk of moving of equipment and personnel done by March to avoid the pressures on transportation which result when the summer influx begins. He expects most of the transportation services to be purchased from the Steamship Authority.

The Navy will take all moveable equipment from the base, leaving only those items which are fixed, such as the central heating system. Dooley said that the base will be boarded up, pipes drained, and left in a secured condition. A security force will also be hired, probably by the General Services Administration who will own the site after the Navy leaves, to guard against vandalism. Leaving the primary systems intact within the compound will permit the next group acquiring title to re-open the facility without great expense.

If the base is not acquired by Federal or State agencies, the Town of Nantucket will be offered both the base and Gouin Village at a nominal cost. If the Town does not accept the offer, the two areas will be offered to the private sector for the highest bid.

Plans underway for summer Main Street Fete

1975

For the first time since 1961, plans are in the works to close Main Street, from the bank to the vicinity of the Monument, for the purpose of celebrating the Bicentennial on Nantucket with open houses and gardens, colorful tableaux, children's entertainments, food, sales of Nantucket products and much more. History will be relived on Main Street.

The date will be August 3, or a day or two later in case of inclement weather. The event is being sponsored by the Nantucket Bicentennial Commission and will benefit The Homestead and the Nantucket Theatre Workshop.

At one time the Main Street Fete was a traditional event on the island, but for various reasons such a massive undertaking has not been tried for 14 years. Prior to the 1961 fete, there was one in 1959, the year of Nantucket's 300th birthday.

Mrs. Allen Backus, who was a chairman of both the last two fetes, is again heading the 1976 event. Her steering committee consists of Robert Metters, Joseph M. Dixon, John Welch, Edgar A. Anderson, George Fleming, Avery Colt, and one member to be added.

A number of persons have already agreed to chair the various committees needed for such an important community event, but a list will not be publicized until next month when it should be complete. The steering committee hopes that the community at large will help to make this bicentennial event a complete success. Dec. 1975

The tradition lives on

Nearly three centuries ago Nantucket's sheep farmers, small-boatmen and inshore fishermen moved out into more distant waters and began the pursuit of the most dangerous and profitable game on the deep, the sperm whale. In the ensuing years their enterprise, resourcefulness, ingenuity and skill upon the sea opened up vast reaches of the Pacific, discovered lands heretofore unknown, forged a new industry, and transformed their tiny, rustic farming community into the earth's chief whaling port.

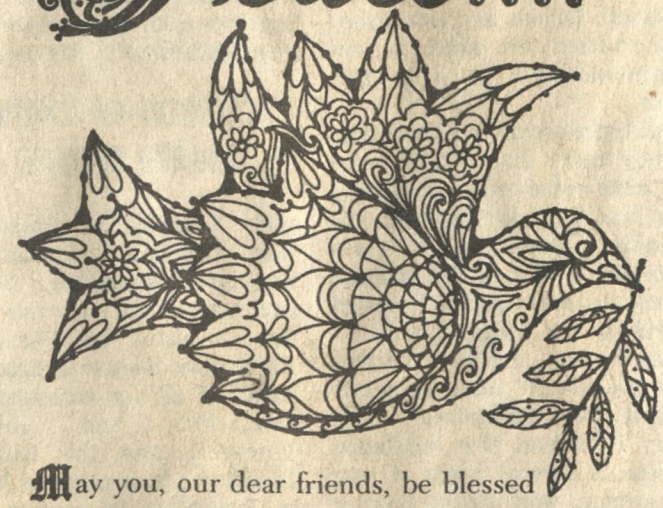
If, at the onset of this astounding historical evolution, the experienced leaders of the world's great seaports had been given this proposition, they probably would have said that it couldn't be done. Such a small community could never produce the sheer ability to do it. — And yet, they would have been wrong. Nantucketers did it.

If, in this present age of steam and steel, an experienced Coast Guard officer had been asked if a handful of citizen volunteers could walk aboard a ship they had never seen before, an uncommon type of ship at that, a dead ship, laid up and out of repair — without ship's plans or blueprints, without briefing or instruction of any sort, without so much as one word of information, and in 72 hours take her to sea with everything repaired and "on the line" — he would probably have laughed and said it was impossible. He might have cited the long period of special training normally needed, the lengthy familiarization necessary before a new man knows his way around a strange engine room, and said that no little group of citizens from a small town could possibly have the ability to do it. — And he, too, would have been wrong. Nantucketers did it, not once, but twice.

The crew of Nantucket volunteers that first took the Boston lightship to New Jersey last summer, and who this week completed the saga by bringing the larger Nantucket lightship to the island from Boston, surely personify the hallowed seagoing tradition of energy, skill and resourcefulness in its highest degree. Last summer's "Dirty Dozen" (as they so proudly style themselves), together with the several others who lent a hand on this second voyage, displayed a degree of ability and competence worthy of profound respect in the highest professional circles. They took a strange ship, out of service for many months and with some necessary systems inoperative, and they figured everything out for themselves, made it work, then brought the ship home. Nantucket can be proud of them.

Tom Giffin

Peace....



May you, our dear friends, be blessed with a joyous Christmas filled with peace and happiness. Warm thanks.

Esther's

Flower Patch

1975

May 18, 1813 issue of the Hartford Courant

Nantucket Seamen impressed on British vessels

The Hartford Courant, one of the nation's oldest and most respected newspapers is publishing pages from early issues of the newspaper in its current issues. Steve Cassano, a Nantucketer who resides in Manchester, Conn. and teaches at the Manchester Community College sent the Inquirer and Mirror a reprint of the front page of the Thursday, May 18, 1813 issue which deals with the impressment of American sailors in the British Navy. Of particular interest in this report is the mention of several Nantucket sailors.

Thanksgiving seems an appropriate time to reprint the report for the information of the Inquirer and Mirror readers. It gives a brief insight into what early seamen faced in this period of American history.

New London, May 5, 1813

Mr. Alfred Carpenter, an aged and respectable citizen of Norwich, having been informed by some American prisoners who had been put on shore from H. B. M. ship Ramillies, that his son, John Carpenter, was detained by impressment on board that ship; he came to this city to solicit the means of rescuing his son from bondage. A smack was accordingly procured for that purpose, and Capt. Oliver Champlain, volunteered his services in taking charge of her. They left this port with a flag on the 29th ult. with Mr. Carpenter on board; same day fell in with the Ramillies and Orpheus, 7 leagues to the southward of Block Island. As soon as the flag was discovered by the Ramillies, she made sail and stood for the smack; sent a boat with a Lieut. who took on board Capt. C. and Mr. Carpenter, where the Capt. Sir T. H. Hardy, received them with his characteristic politeness. Having made known their business to him, he readily consented to discharge the young man; and said, if he were convinced there were any other Americans on board, he would discharge them with pleasure. John Carpenter, had been held in British service upwards of five years; and had wages due to him amounting to upwards of $300 and more than $2000 of prize money. Capt. Hardy, gave him the certificate necessary to enable him to procure the money which in due time he will undoubtedly do - Carpenter speaks with great respect of Sir Thomas, and says he has been uniformly treated well on board the different ships in which he has served. The meeting between the father and son was truly affecting.

Carpenter informs, that there are four impressed Americans remaining on board the Ramillies, viz. Edward Ried, of Nantucket, 13 years in the service; William Banks, of Hampton, Virginia, about 5 years do. John Clements, of Nantucket or New-York; and John Nichols of New-York. - We also learn that there is an impressed American named Job Macomber, of Dartmouth, (Mass.) on board the Orpheus; 3 years in the service.

In the Flag came the following letter open, written in reply to a letter from J. Stewart Esq. agent for American prisoners in New-London, soliciting the discharge of John Carpenter.

"His Majesty's ship Ramillies,
off Block Island,
April 29, 1813.

"Sir,

"I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, and in reply beg leave to say, that it is far from the wish of the commander in chief on this station to keep any subject belonging to the United States, on board any of our ships of war. I have therefore sent by the bearer of this, John Carpenter; and if I thought there was another citizen of the United States on board the ship I have the honor to command, he should be sent by the same conveyance. I have directed the Orpheus to land all the prisoners she has on board, by getting proper receipts for them, and if the government of America do not think proper to send back the few men who have unfortunately fallen into their hands, I shall acquit myself of having done every thing in my power to lessen the hardships attached to the fortune of war; and shall (though with much reluctance) in future be under the necessity of sending all prisoners to Halifax or Burmuda. I have sent by the Flag of Truce Capt. Hudson, who was captured by the Ramillies a few days ago: may I beg of you to send a receipt for him, with the other prisoners.

I have the honor to be
yours most faithfully.
T. M. Hardy

To James Stewart, Esq.
Agent for British prisoners & c.

Agreeably to the tenor of the foregoing letter, on Sunday last the Orpheus, Capt. Pagot, arrived off this harbor and sent up a flag. The Deputy Marshal received the officer Lieut. Dance, on board the Revenue Cutter Eagle, Capt. Lee. A packet was sent down to the frigate to receive the prisoners, but Capt. Pagot declined sending them unless a previous receipt was given for them. In consequence of which the deputy marshal went on board the frigate, gave the receipts, and brought up the prisoners; in all 38, among whom were Captains, Hosmor, of Norwich, Hathaway of Newport, and Swift, of Providence.

In consequence of the failure of the attempt of Sir T. M. Hardy, to effect an exchange of prisoners on the 25th ult. the following letter addressed by him to the American Captains, prisoners on board the Orpheus. We receive much pleasure in giving it publicity, as we cannot but admire and respect the character of an enemy who has so uniformly evinced amidst the unaviodable irritations and calamities of war, and unshaken attachment to the interests of humanity. It is real cause of gratulation, that while we are doomed to suffer the evils attendant on a blockade, that the British commander on this station possesses so remarkable a share of humanity and magnanimity.

-And while the enemy are thus "softening the rigors of war" it is not a little gratifying, that so far as respects the citizens of this place in general nothing that is proper.

'Our Island Home top priority' says NP&EDC — Selectmen agree

A letter from Donald T. Visco, chairman of the Nantucket Planning and Economic Development Commission, to the Board of Selectmen informed them that the commission had reviewed the Board's Pre-application for a community development block grant.

Visco said that the commission feels that new construction or substantial rehabilitation of Our Island Home is top priority in the community facilities and services planning. The Selectmen were in agreement with the contents of the letter.

The letter stated:

"In its capacity as an areawide clearinghouse and pursuant to OMB Circular A-95, please be advised that the Nantucket Planning & Economic Development Commission reviewed the Board's Preapplication for a Community Development Block Grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and voted on November 13 to wholly concur with the following comments.

"The Commission feels that the new construction or substantial rehabilitation of Our Island Home is clearly a top priority in the Island's community facilities and services planning. The imminent loss of the facility through non-certification would be a disaster to the Island - particularly as it would effect low income elderly individuals in need of such care. The Commission further feels it would be tragic to force the elderly of this Town, many of whom have been pillars of the community for the better part of a century, to leave the Island to find safe and certified resident health care.

"It must also be mentioned that population increases and changes in the character of the population will make the provision of such services locally even more critical. Recent projections of our agency indicate at least a doubling of the Island's year-round population by 1985. In addition, the inability of the Town's young people to find reasonably priced housing and the attractiveness of Nantucket as a retirement community mean that the community's age structure will be shifting (The mean age on Nantucket is presently 34 - 6½ years older than the State as a whole).

Looking North over the Town

The vertical line of Orange St. dominates the center of the picture, before it bends to the lower right. To the left the sharp elbow of Fair St. is visible, leading up toward the Pacific National Bank, with the Methodist Church visible behind the bank. Pine St. cuts across lower left, while Washington St. can be seen at right edge of picture.

1960 – 15 Years Ago

Miss Cora Stevens accounced the sale of her gift and stationery store to Mr. and Mrs. Chester A. Baker, of Boston.

"Whalers' Night" at Nantucket High School Auditorium honored the football squad and coaches Richard F. Coffin, Joseph Hannon and Charles Bassett.

On December 6 Cyril C. Ross II, of North Water Street, was lost in the Wauwinet swamp when out deer-hunting. He was so far into the swamp that it took Russell Pope and Harry Clute, two of the many volunteer searchers, nearly two hours to get back to the Sexton Farm. The search had been conducted by air as well as by searchers on land.

1875 – 100 Years Ago

100 new glass chimneys for Sankaty Head lighthouse arrived December 9. New style German wicks had come several weeks previously. The lighthouse inspectors stated the light "one of the best kept" in the United States.

Billy Clark announced that he could see, from the South Tower on December 9, the South Shoal lightship and also could see the men moving about on the deck of the lightboat on Cross Rip.

James H. Wood launched his dory at Surfside on December 5 and caught over 200 cod and haddock. The average catch for the other boats was only 16.

Scenes of the crew bringing the Nantucket Lightship home

Photos by Frederick Clow

Photo by Gordon Turner

Lightship lies in her temporary berth on south side of Steamboat Wharf until permanent berth becomes available at Nantucket Boat Basin.

Cap'n Bob Grant glances away from the wheelhouse porthole, where he is keeping an eye on the ship.

Mate Les Eldridge stands a wheel watch.

Seaman-yeoman Dan Kelliher catches up on his journal.

how time! From l. to r., Ben Richmond, Jack Gardner, 2nd cook te Bachman, and Chief Cook Andy Docca.

'Sconset pump to be activated; wears holiday dress

'Sconset's famous village pump has been decorated for the Christmas season to announce its having been "activated" in preparation for the Bicentennial celebration to take place next July. The gay Christmas decorations on this familiar landmark were designed and created by Esther Swain of the Flower Patch.

Great credit is due Kenneth Eldridge and his son, Nelson, who have worked out a simulated "activation" of the pump so that water will come from it during the celebration.

This village well was actually dug in the year 1776, "costing twenty pounds, four shillings and nine pence". The amount was raised by popular subscription. A list of the names of the original subscribers has been framed and will be shown during 'Sconset's festivities.

In July, 1968, an invitation was extended to all to attend a brief ceremony to mark the changes in the pump. Mary Turlay Robinson, who had labored for years on behalf of the pump and its surrounding area, presided and presented the bronze plaque.

An article in The Inquirer And Mirror stated: "The 'Sconset Pump is a unique treasure and a true historical monument. It has had at least two restorations, the latest one some time ago when Ernest Coffin made a fine replica of the original and added a trough and a drinking trough for horses. In old photographs there was a half barrel to catch extra water. Unfortunately in our day the trough had become a receptacle for trash and there were no horses to drink from it had there been water. It will now be used as a planter to add a more festive note.

"The Town of Nantucket through Michael Driscoll of the D.P.W. has placed a boulder on the front of the pump, with a bronze plaque giving the date of the well. . . It has been encouraging to receive the thanks of the drivers who have particularly appreciated the white fence which is a protection in fog and at night as the road on one side is necessarily narrow."

The ceremony concluded with Gibbs Penrose's singing "Buy a Ticket to 'Sconset." This song is being used as the title and theme of 'Sconset's one-day celebration on Wednesday, July 14, 1976, which will incorporate a trip into the past of "The Patchwork Village."

A Christmas Prayer

An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
the rains fall soft upon your fields
and until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Geological well hits bedrock at 1540 feet!

Jan. 29, 1976

After many weeks of drilling, the U.S. Geological Survey's drill hole near the 4th milestone finally reached bedrock late Tuesday night at a depth of 1540 feet, or 469 meters. The rock encountered is a dense, fine-grained conglomerate or coarse sandstone with tiny pebbles included, and is much-fractured with many veins of white mineral lacing it. Its age is conjectured to be Triassic (pronounced "try-assic"), a period which spanned the time from 230 to 195 million years ago. Geologist John C. "Jack" Hathaway is shown with the first full 2½-inch core brought up from this level.

The first break in the monotonous series of Lower Cretaceous sands and clays came late Monday when, at a depth of 1498 feet, the drill bit ran into a dark, dense, well-weathered and quite hard clay liberally sprinkled with small pieces of a white mineral. Hathaway's immediate thought was, "Triassic!", the period which has been considered the goal for the drilling project. When questioned later in the day he said that while there is no means at the moment of verifying the absolute age of the mineral-sprinkled clay below 1498 feet, it looks just like much of the sedimentary rock from the Connecticut Valley which is thought to be Triassic, and he added, as a footnote to his personal feeling, "If that's not Triassic I'll eat it."

A brief flurry of excitement rippled through the tiny group of geologists when they first saw the small pieces of white mineral. In the absence of testing equipment they thought it could be gypsum (the material in sheetrock), the presence of which would have special implications for the environment of the time when it was deposited, and Hathaway called an airplane in and flew a sample out to Woods Hole for analysis. However, the material proved to be kaolinite, a clay material quite different in origin.

Drilling continued on the gruelling 24-hour schedule established earlier in the month, and the material under the drillbit rapidly got harder, necessitating a switch from the big 6-inch core tube to the small 2½-inch tube. Thin layers of rock were met, and then at 1540 feet, around midnight on Tuesday, the bit met solid rock. The slender core brought to the surface revealed a heavily fractured sedimentary rock intricately veined with white calcite, a form of calcium carbonate, the material with which shellfish grow their shells.

Dr. Jack Hathaway proudly displays core samples of the veined bedrock recovered Wednesday from below 1540 feet (469 meters). White streaks are sections of fractures in the rock which were later filled with a solution containing calcium carbonate, which ultimately solidified in the cracks in the form of calcite.

Wednesday evening Hathaway flew back to Woods Hole to make chemical and X-ray diffraction analyses of this first bedrock sample, leaving Elaine G.A. Weed in charge, assisted by Edward C. Rhodehamel, also of the U.S.G.S. Virginia office. As of this morning the lowest core recovered was from 1578 feet, and drilling was continuing into ever harder rock at the rate of about two feet an hour. An electric logging crew is to arrive Sunday and record the electrical conductivity of the earth at all depths in the hole, and drilling will be halted during this operation.

Fair Street Museum to have bicentennial display

Mrs. Harding Greene, specialist in antique furniture of the 18th century and chairman of Nantucket's bicentennial display to be held this summer at the Nantucket Historical Association's Fair Street Museum, was the featured speaker at the D.A.R. February meeting in Monomoy at the home of Mrs. Robert Congdon.

Mrs. Greene was associated with the Concord Antiquarian Society for ten years. In that capacity she became interested in Nantucket's valuable pieces of that period.

Today she is giving full time to locating such items in Nantucket homes and in nearby communities and planning a public display for this summer's bicentennial exhibit. So far she has had good success but more is desired.

Much timeless research has gone into the project and is still continuing. In her search she found that many pieces of furniture were bought in New England, many in Rhode Island, and transported to other places, such as Nantucket, by ship captains as a financial project.

Tracing a piece, once it is found, is a time-consuming job, often ending in failure. It is of historical importance to identify accurately the maker and approximate date of the article and a thrilling experience when the search ends in success, as so far has been the case in several instances.

Mrs. Greene is also a specialist in portraits of Nantucketers or of individuals who had some connection with Nantucket, especially those painted by an 18th century artist.

To date her accomplishment in finding and identifying a sizable number of such art pieces has been most rewarding.

Her enthusiasm, tireless research and persistence in following up every lead promises to result in a most interesting and valuable collection which will make an exciting display for next summer's bicentennial celebration.

One of the most unusual and valuable portraits is that of Mary Gardner Coffin, wife of Jethro Coffin. They were the first owners and inhabitants of Nantucket's Oldest House, now itself a museum.

While many of the items on display belong in Nantucket, several interesting and valuable antiques have been acquired from other communities. The exhibit will be on display this summer only.

Our Island Home-Past, Present, Future

Feb 1976

Part II

by Nancy Ayotte

There was never a dull moment on Open House Day at Our Island Home last week. The residents received guests enthusiastically, and many were anxious to relate their opinions on the current dilemma facing their historic home. Some consented readily to having their names printed with their opinions. Others shunned the thought of publicity, but were willing to speak their minds when assured that their names would be withheld from publication.

While arts and crafts projects were in full swing on the second floor, led by Activities Director Holly Molkau, and tea was being served in the reception room, the I & M polled residents on the most pressing issue of the day: the fate of their present home.

Selectmen and hospital administrators are giving consideration to the proposed construction of an extended care facility as part of the hospital complex to replace Our Island Home. Residents were asked to comment.

"Oh no we've not!" Mary Howland Sherman responded to the idea of combining with the hospital. "You just get your mind set on that!" she said good-naturedly.

Ruth Perry, a resident of the Home for nearly fifteen years echoed her sentiments. "I don't intend to go up there," she said emphatically. "I don't want to look out at a graveyard," which is located nearby. "We all get there soon enough! I like it here very much."

"We think it's perfect as nursing homes go," Miss Sherman summed up.

Many of the residents expressed concern over the report that a new nursing home would contain few if any single rooms since state aid is offered only for multi-occupancy rooms. Other general opinions indicate that people who have lived near the ocean all their lives, don't lose that love of it in their old age.

One man who has lived at the Home since 1967 said: "Everybody likes the view here, and the fresh air off the ocean. If we combine with the hospital, I understand that there will be three or four to a room. We don't like that. Here we have a beautiful view of the Creeks.

"This is a town project and I don't think it should be incorporated into a private organization," he said. "The Island Home should maintain its independence. Once we go with the hospital, the town has no more to say. This has always been part of the island's heritage. Nantucket people have always taken care of their own."

Another woman who said she has lived on Nantucket for 54 years offered a case for separate rooms. "I sleep the night through," she said, "while others sleep in a chair, off and on all day, and then are up at 3 o'clock at night.

"They say we need wider doors. They can put wider doors. Here we have lovely fresh air, a view of the ocean. In the summer we sit on the piazza. Even the crippled are pushed out in wheelchairs. It's something to see. What will we have up there? Nothing to see!"

Mrs. Anna (Maken) Hamblin, a new resident, commented: "This is just an ideal place, but its a very expensive place to be. We have lovely rooms, plenty of air."

Another woman resident said that living at the Island Home is "very pleasant. We play bingo, bridge, have sing-a-longs, and there is always TV." While she said that she hasn't given much thought to the issue of combining with the hospital she commented: "I've heard people talk about it, and I haven't heard anyone who wants to go up there. There's a purpose in Our Island Home. It should be maintained."

Keith Conant commented: "I'd like to see them build it out there (pointing toward the DPW site). I like to see the harbor. We would not have such a good view at the hospital."

Mrs. Ada Pease at 91 expressed with obvious pride that she is one of the oldest residents of Our Island Home. Would she like to see the Home combine with the hospital? "No!" she said resolutely. "Here I live under the window. I love it! I can see them out sailing, fishing, scalloping. I enjoy watching the DPW with those funny looking vehicles. They tried to move me over to the other side of the building once but. . .(and she shook her head emphatically). I enjoy living here!"

Many praised the care which they receive. Miss Sherman acknowledged that there would be "advantages and disadvantages" to locating near the hospital. "It would be good for people who need additional medical care," she said. "But our administrators know who do."

Another said: "Mrs. G. (Olive Garrabrant - Director of Our Island Home) is very good to us. I cannot complain about anything. Everything is very good."

But what is life really like for the residents who live there. Miss Sherman had just written a letter about her life to her sister who is presently in the hospital, but who is waiting to become a resident of Our Island Home. Miss Sherman agreed to share her thoughts with the people of Nantucket, and the following paragraphs are excerpts from her letter:

"There are 30 residents, about as many nurses and staff, two men attendants in the daytime, and a night watchman. There are four men residents. There are 14 residents downstairs - all eat off trays in their rooms. Upstairs there are 16, most of whom go to a dining room where there are four tables, food served on trays also.

"The men are all upstairs. Ages of residents vary from 98 to 60 years. The youngest is a woman of 60 who. . .is paralyzed, but able to feed herself with help. She is an inspiration, as she loves to sing and has a nice voice. She has children and grandchildren. Her husband comes every night to spend an hour with her.

"So it goes, all sorts of folks, all quite on the refined side, and the whole place remarkable as such places go. It is the pink of cleanliness and neatness at all hours and remarkably good fellowship and kindness always. I don't see how the young people who serve stand it but they seem to.

"I'm on the second floor. We up here are regarded as able to walk enough to get downstairs on our own in case of emergency, and in fact do go down a lot for movies, sing-a-longs, and various doings and entertainment.

"The desire of all the residents and staff of the institution is that a new building in this site will, in all ways and in the end, prove to be the best solution of this very important current Nantucket problem.

"I haven't mentioned the grand care given to us regarding our health. That is, the watchfulness of all our administrators and nurses, of dietitians, cooks and all helpers. Delicious foods are chosen for us with concerns for our needs and preferences.

"The every day small needs and desires are respected and fulfilled from mailing our letters to doing our errands. This all means that if it can be done, it is done, and makes for this happy report."

Miss Sherman also added a practical note concerning the costs of running Our Island Home. "While we may be spending a million dollars in 1976-77 and on," she wrote, "this expenditure may very well prove to have been the best policy."

"My room looks out over the harbor and is most pleasant most of the day. The building is set to catch the sun in all rooms at some time during the day. My room faces north and east. I can see Brant Point light and the wharves and all the activities in the harbor. There's nothing much going on out there this time of the year except "scalloping" in small boats. . .

"We are having Open House here today. . .There's something going on all the time. . .The idea is to acquaint the community of the doings and needs of this institution. It has been condemned on 27 counts by the state government and something must be done about it. (It) needs so many modern or safety requirements - is a "fire trap," has no elevator, has narrow halls and doors, etc. . .

Our Island Home — past, present and future

(1976

Part 1

by Nancy Ayotte

In Bicentennial year 1976, Our Island Home is as much a part of the island's future as it is its past. While the town ponders the fate of this historic building, these articles in three parts are designed to explore its history — past, present, and future.

Photo by Nancy Ayotte

OUR ISLAND HOME has become symbolic of an island tradition nearly as old as the first settlement — that of island people taking of their own.

"Our Island Home" has become symbolic of an island tradition nearly as old as the first settlement — that of island people taking care of their own.

Although it wasn't until 1822 that the town purchased the country home of Mark Coffin for $6,700 as the site of the Quaise Farm, the tradition of town provided care for its needy had already been long established.

Located about three miles outside of town, the voters determined to construct four buildings on the Coffin site at a cost of $12,349.43. Four years later, a House of Correction and Industry were constructed on the grounds which had since become known as the Asylum, or Poor Farm.

The misfortune which had followed Mark Coffin during his earlier life and had forced him to sell his Quaise home to the town in 1822 did not relent in his later years. In 1839, Coffin died while living at the Poor Farm which had once been his home. His body is buried in the Asylum burying grounds located some 200 feet south of the present Polpis Road. His grave, like the others in that burying ground, is not marked by a headstone.

At 2 a.m. on February 21, 1846, a blaze erupted which left the Quaise Asylum in ashes on the ground. During that year, 59 people had been living in the building including the keeper, Capt. Timothy Baker, and his family. Thirteen of the 59 were bed-ridden, and one had not walked for 20 years.

The fire spread rapidly causing one young man to leap from a second story window. Another jumped from a third story window. Both were unhurt. One woman inmate was able to rescue several others.

Neighbors, too, quickly came to help, and one, Charles H. Burgess, found an elderly man and his wife in bed on the third floor. Burgess warned them of the impending danger and the man escaped to safety. The woman, however, refused to budge from her bed. According to Alexander Starbuck in History of Nantucket, Burgess "took her out of bed, conveyed her to the window and down a ladder to safety, she struggling violently all the time to prevent the rescue."

When the fire was over, five men and five women had lost their lives in the blaze. The youngest was a woman of 29. Others ranged in age from the early fifties to the oldest, a woman of 89. All are buried in a spot about 75 feet south of the present Polpis Road, about opposite "Quaise Gate," states the Nantucket Argument Settlers.

The buildings at the Quaise Farm were quickly rebuilt, but in February 1854, the town voted to sell the property.

In Proceedings of the Nantucket Historical Association — 1946, Edouard Stackpole relates that a committee was appointed to determine the feasibility of removing some of the buildings.

The following month the Committee recommended that the Asylum and the House of Correction be moved from the premises. At the same time, the town voted to establish separate identities for the two buildings, and to re-locate them on separate sites. On March 13, George C. Gardner and Joseph M. Folger purchased the Quaise Farm from the town at auction.

The Asylum was re-located to the site of the present "Our Island Home," and sections of it were used in the concentration of the present structure. This building originally had a chapel in the upper floor and a dungeon in the basement.

The Overseers of the Poor, a town board which had long tended to the needy members of the island community, voted to change the name of the structure to "Our Island Home" on July 4, 1905, Independence Day.

In the early twentieth century, the number of residents living in the building usually numbered in the teens or low twenties. During those early days, the residents helped contribute to the maintenance of the establishment by growing vegetables and raising pigs, chickens and baking bread. Today 30 people live in the Orange Street home.

In 1927, the Department of the Poor was dissolved and control of "Our Island Home" was given over to the Board of Selectmen. Walter H. Burgess who had long been that department's agent became agent for the Board of Public Welfare.

The status of "Our Island Home has greatly changed since its beginnings. In 1960, the establishment was approved as a medical institution, and today residents must require a number of hours of nursing care in order to qualify for residency. In addition, some of the residents are private patients who cover the daily charge of $36.46 through their own finances, and most supplement medicaid payments with social security and other sources of income.

Under a grandfather clause of law, "Our Island Home" retains the status of public medical institution under the general heading of hospitals and sanitoria, and while the town appropriates monies each year to carry it over until state imbursements are forwarded to the town, as it does for other budgets, the bulk of that money is returned to the town treasury before the year is over. In the long run, reinbursements are presently at a level higher than expenditures.

Source material for historic information was obtained from:

History of Nantucket by Alexander Starbuck 1924, C.E. Goodspeed & Co. Boston

Proceedings of the Nantucket Historical Association. 1946 Report of the President — Edouard Stackpole.

Nantucket Odyssey by Emile F. Guba 1965.

Index file at Antheneum.

Nantucket Argument Settlers 1966.

Storm Winds Lash the Harbor

Feb 1978

Nantucket battered by hurricane force winds in February storm

Nantucket was battered with a southwest gale Monday that carried winds of hurricane force that raised havoc with the scallop boats in Madaket and Nantucket Harbors and caused the 325-foot Federal Aviation Administration Consolan tower at Madaket to crumble to the ground.

The strong winds that started to blow with force at 3 a.m. swept across the island at 80-90 miles per hour in gusts and by daybreak was uprooting trees, causing power and telephone lines to come down, created 20-foot waves along the south shore that resulted in extensive shore erosion and did a great deal of property damage in all parts of the island. It was apparent that Nantucket was hit harder than any other section of southeastern Massachusetts.

Small craft warnings were flown Sunday morning and were changed to full gale warnings at 5 p.m. and a few scallop boat owners were careful enough to remove their boats from the water. Even though the gale warnings were raised, there was no warning given of the possible severity of the approaching storm.

maintaining their services as much as possible and deserve the thanks of the community for what they did. Where power was lost because of a fallen wire, it was quickly restored.

One of the first of many large branches to fall in the streets came from the tall elm in front of The Emporium on Main Street partially blocking the street to traffic. Fortunately no one was injured and it missed hitting passing cars.

Centre Street was blocked off from India to Broad Streets after two big trees were uprooted and a branch fell from another tree. One tree fell by Leon Royal's Royal Manor breaking two of his windows and a section of his fence on Chestnut Street. Another tree fell from across the street towards Royal Manor but did not cause any damage to the house.

Other trees down were on Pleasant Street, near Main, Vesper Lane and Hummock Pond Road and at the corner of Main and Walnut Streets where it tore open a section of the sidewalk. It was also reported that small pine trees were blown down along the bicycle path to Siasconset and a utility pole fell in front of the Jack Topham home on Hummock Pond Road.

Madaket received the brunt of the storm and was reported to be a general "mess" with scallop boats driven ashore all over the place. Boats parked on trailers in backyards were tossed off the trailers and would land six or more feet away from the trailers. One boat ended on top of the town pier and others were driven onto Cambridge Street and over to Andrew Lewis' property.

The Hither Creek Boatyard was hard hit with a boat shed being moved off its foundation, finger piers damaged, fuel tanks knocked out and boats moved around and scattered. Charles Sayle in his Waterfront News column has complete details of the storm in both Madaket and in town as it affected the boats.

Loss of the FAA Consolan tower at Madaket was reminiscent of a storm in 1947 that leveled five CAA towers with a loss of $250,000 to the government. Lewis Seay, chief of the local FAA office, said the loss of this tower would be in excess of $50,000 and could cost up to $80,000 to rebuild.

The present tower was a high powered, low-frequency beacon, whose signal was used for navigational purposes by planes up and down the coast from Florida to Maine. Seay said that he has learned that the beacon was even used by planes on the Bermuda run. It is not known at this time if the FAA will have it replaced but it would appear to be an important beacon.

The storm caused cancellation of the two daily trips of the Steamship Authority boats and interrupted scheduled plane flights isola the island for the day.

Schools had opened as usual in the morning but because the storm increased in intensity as the morning went on and there was a threat of icy roads later in the afternoon, calasses were called off at 11:45 a.m., buses were called to pick up the children and by noon the schools were emptied.

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As the wind increased around 3:30 a.m., police began to be deluged with calls reporting trees and tree branches falling in the streets and wires coming down. Police guarded the fallen wires to keep people and their cars away until it was determined whether it was a power line or a telephone line. The Fire Department received calls about the same fallen trees and lines and had to keep in mind where the locations were in case an alarm came in. The Town DPW was called out early and were busy about 16 hours clearing away debris in an effort to keep as many roads and streets open as possible. The police, fire and the DPW heads have received a letter of commendation and thanks from the Board of Selectmen for their efforts.

I & M now proud possessor of Nantucket Flag

Thanks to the enterprise and generosity of Mr. Robert Bretschneider, a summer resident of 65 Center St., the I & M now is the proud possessor of a Nantucket flag, and will fly it from a small jackstaff over the office door during business hours. To the best of our knowledge this is the first Nantucket flag to be flown on the island.

Mr. Bretschneider is actively exploring the feasibility of producing and marketing the Nantucket flag. As an experiment he has had a dozen of the 12 by 18-inch size made up, of which the I & M flag is one. It is made of heavy synthetic fiber cloth in two layers, with the emblem painted on and facing differently on each side. He reports that in lots of less than 100 the wholesale cost is about six dollars each, and that this would be somewhat less in lots of 100.

This flag varies slightly from the original in having the island name on it, in having the emblem face differently on the two sides, and in being rectangular instead of a burgee. However, these are common perrial variations in many flags and should be no trouble in ours. The 12 by 18 size, which is referred to as a boat flag, is also appropriate for display on a staff beneath the national colors, at the starboard spreader or masthead of a yacht or larger vessel when the national flag is flown at the gaff or stern. It may also be flown by itself on a pole or staff ashore. Flag etiquette does not require that the national colors be flown with it, only that when they are displayed together the local flag should be in the junior position.

If any of the I & M readers should wish to contact Mr. Bretschneider about the Nantucket flag, his winter address is 154-14 35th Avenue, Flushing, N.Y. 11354.

Stackpoles made honorary members of Chamber

Sixty-nine members and guests attended the annual Chamber of Commerce dinner last Thursday evening at the Derby Restaurant. A cocktail hour was held from 6 to 7, followed by dinner.

An honorary life membership was presented to Edouard and Florence Stackpole by president Gene Bartlett. The Chamber extended a heartfelt thanks to both for their untiring years of service to the community. Mr. and Mrs. Stackpole opened the evening's dancing with the first waltz.

It was reported that at a recent board of directors meeting Rev. Robert Metters had outlined plans for the Bicentennial celebration which include five events and that are all progressing well.

In the planning stage is an all-island clean-up, designed to further beautify Nantucket and do away with some "eye sores".

Everyone who was interested in the Blue Cross-Blue Shield plan, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, has been contacted by Allen Cole of the New Bedford office, according to the report.

The final order of business was the release of figures showing that the Chamber office has received mail and telephone calls from 37 states and Canada inquiring about winter, spring and summer visits.

George Selleck entertains AARP

Forty-three members of the Nantucket Chapter, AARP, enjoyed a showing of color slides of Finland and the reindeer country presented by George Selleck who also gave a very interesting description of life in Finland and Lapland.

Mr. Selleck spent two years and also made two summer trips to this northern European country performing relief work for the Quakers. He has about 1200 slides of Finland of which he selected 75 for the AARP showing

1836 — 140 Years Ago

The harbor was still closed with ice. On February 6 Arthur Macy walked over the ice to the schooner "Splendid" anchored about 5 miles beyond the Bar, learning that no one on board needed assistance. The next day she was seen being carried in the ice toward Tuckernuck shoals.

The sloop "Glide" arrived on February 10 from West Falmouth, getting as far as Brant Point, bringing eight mails.

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1876 — 100 Years Ago

The frame for the new hotel at the head of the harbor was being erected.

"Painters, carpenters and masons will profit by the gale of the 2nd inst. It is an ill wind that blows nobody any good."

For the year 1875 Nantucket had recorded 58 births, 29 marriages and 95 deaths.

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1901 — 75 Years Ago

Town Meeting faced the longest warrant ever — a total of 70 Articles. $350 was voted to light the 'Sconset street lights.

The harbor was frozen over. The Haulover being opened to the sea made it out of the question to land mail and passengers on Great Point. That left only Quidnet as a point of landing, to be used only in an emergency.

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1926 — 50 Years Ago

Miss Anne Ring became Nantucket's first lady Selectwoman.

On February 10 the "Nobska" was held at the dock because of a heavy easterly storm. This was the first trip missed in 15 months.

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1951 — 26 Years Ago

Nantucket, on February 3 and 4, had a record snowfall of 15.9 inches. The Town of Nantucket had available only 4 snowplows. Tractors were used to help clear the roads. "June" Bartlett, with his horses and sidewalk plows spent long hours clearing the sidewalks of the heavy snow. On Wednesday, February 6, heavy rains came, washing away all the snow.

February 7 — Fire destroyed the "tuning house" at the C.A.A. Omni-Range Station in Madaket in the midst of a storm. The station had not yet been commissioned and was operating on an experimental basis only.

1836 — 140 Years Ago

William Mitchell was continuing his series of lectures on Astronomy at the Atheneum.

On February 14 the sloop "Barclay" managed to get as far as Brant Point where she discharged a few passengers and several mails. She had been ice-bound in the bay and vicinity for 10 days.

The cargo of the "Reaper", stranded February 5 at Great Point, was brought to town. The vessel had gone to pieces.

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1876 — 100 Years Ago

Town Meeting opened Monday, February 14, and closed Thursday, February 18. On Thursday it took two hours just to read and accept the records of the Wednesday session "owing to so much useless, out of the way talk".

A gale on the 14th and 15th toppled chimneys and fences weakened by the storm of the 2nd. A total of 2.4 inches of rain fell during the 2-day period.

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1901 — 75 Years Ago

On February 18 the steamer "Nantucket" reached the pier after a 6 hour trip and 7 days absence. The steamer was caught in the ice off the jetties for several hours.

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1926 — 50 Years Ago

It was announced that "Sconset was to have an electric clock. The Casino directors had ordered one which would have a dial 3 ft. in diameter, to be placed in the south gable and to be lighted at night.

The newly elected Selectmen met in a freshley cleaned room — cobwebs were down, there were comfortable chairs, clean blotters, inkwells, pens and pencils and also pads. The old cuspidors had disappeared. Chairman Hull was thanked for his efforts in recognizing the appearance of the island's first lady member, Miss Anne Ring.

Town Meeting adjourned until the 28th of April, because of controversy on an Article on the Town Building.

The horse-drawn ambulance of the Nantucket Cottage Hospital left the island on February 19. When it returned it would have been motorized and mounted on a Reo chassis.

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1951 — 25 Years Ago

Cub Scout Pack No. 92, B.S.A., received its Charter at a meeting held February 19 at Cyrus Peirce School. Jose Reyes was the first Cub Scout Master.

1876 — 100 Years Ago

The issue of March 4 contained a complete list of fires on Nantucket from 1736 through January 18, 1876, compiled by Timothy Chase.

The younger set were enjoying masquerade parties, called "phantom parties", complete with costumes and masks. They enjoyed refreshments and dancing at the homes of their parents or in some cases at hotels owned by their parents.

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1901 — 75 Years Ago

A petition was presented to the Board of Selectmen not to lease Long Pond and Madaket Ditch. Enough pressure was served on the Board that they ordered the notice of sale to be withdrawn.

Scallopers went out for the first time in over a month, the harbor having been closed by ice.

On Sunday, March 3, Old North Vestry was heated by coal for the first time in history. Two new stoves had been purchased and placed in use.

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1926 — 50 Years Ago

The Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association offered honorary membership as a prize to the student doing the "best research in science" at Nantucket High School. The use of the Association's library was offered to students entering the contest.

Nantucket had seven women holding public office: Anne Ring, Selectwomen; Mary Gardner, Tax Collector; Ann F. Huff, Assessor; Bessie Brock, Lillian Thurston and Mary B. Worth, School Committee, and Emma Cook, Assistant Register of Deeds.

The ten leaders at Nantucket High School were announced: Marion Ramsdell, 97; Merle Turner and Madeline Karam, 96 John Walling, 95; Dorothy Farnum, 94; Florence Chadwick, 93; Dorothy Boyer, 92; Alma Killen and Dorothy Jones, 91; Clara Larrabee, 90.

1836 — 140 Years Ago

The small vessel "Hero", from Edgartown, managed to get through the ice near enough to Brant Point to land several passengers and some groceries. Arrangements were made with the master of the sloop to proceed to West Falmouth and return with the accumulation of 15 mails. This was the first arrived since February 14.

The physicians of Nantucket published an agreement notice with regard to their charges for professional services. 1 visit in regular attendance on a patient, 50 cents; 1 single visit, $1.00; 1 single visit in consultation, $1.00; ordinary visits between 10 p.m. and sunrise, $1.00; venesection, at home, 50 cents; extracting tooth, at home, 25 cents; professional advice at home, 50 cents. For travel out of town a charge of 33 cents per mile plus the visit charge, at night double the sum. This rate schedule became effective on the first of March and was signed by 5 physicians.

The sloop "Fenwick" sailed February 29 for West Falmouth with 30 mails. The vessel returned the next day with 17 mails.

The sloop "Barclay" arrived from Boston on March 3. She had been ice-bound for 30 days. About 15 vessels sailed from Nantucket on the 4th.